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LINN-MAR HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® IOWA BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 22, 2010) — In its 25th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Kyle Dunn of Linn-Mar High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Iowa Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Dunn is the first Gatorade Iowa Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Linn-Mar High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the track, distinguishes Dunn as Iowa's best high school boys track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Dunn joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ryan Hall (1999-01, Big Bear HS, Calif.), Meb Keflezighi (1993-94, San Diego HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Kevin Garnett (1992-93, Maudlin HS, S.C.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.) and Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.).

The 6-foot-1 165-pound junior sprinter and hurdler won the 400-meter dash, the 110-meter high hurdles and the 400meter hurdles at the Class 4A state meet this spring, leading the Lions to third place as a team. His winning time of 51.41 in the 400 hurdles ranked as the nation's fastest among prep competitors under all conditions at the time of his selection. Dunn also earned double gold at the Drake Relays, winning the 110 hurdles with a time of 14.20 and the 400 hurdles in 15.17.

Dunn has maintained a 4.02 GPA in the classroom. A member of his school's yearbook staff, he has volunteered locally on behalf of Students Opposed to Drugs and Alcohol (S.O.D.A.), which reminds peers of the dangers of substance abuse.

"In addition to being such a great athlete, Kyle Dunn is one of the most coachable kids I've ever been around," said Linn-Mar High Head Coach Ken Hopkins. "He does everything we ask him to do and he does it well. He's so committed to the process of making himself the best he can be."

Dunn will begin his senior year of high school this fall.

The Gatorade Player of the Year program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by ESPN RISE and the Gatorade high school sports leadership team, which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners, and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com.