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**STREATOR TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® ILLINOIS BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 22, 2010) — In its 25<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Logan Pflibsen of Streator Township High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Illinois Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Pflibsen is the first Gatorade Illinois Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Streator Township 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 Pflibsen as Illinois' 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, Pflibsen 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 5-foot-10 senior cleared a state-meet record 17 feet, 1 inch to win his second state title in the pole vault this past season. Pflibsen also set the all-time state record with a vault of 17 feet, 2 inches, the No. 2 performance in the nation at the time of his selection.

Pflibsen has maintained an unweighted 3.66 GPA in the classroom. An active member of his church community, he has volunteered locally on behalf of a fundraising campaign to benefit cancer research.

"Since his freshman year, he's progressed about a foot every year," said Streator Head Coach Ken Carlson. "He's worked hard and I think he's exceeded even his own expectations."

Pflibsen has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at the University of New Mexico 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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