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**JOHN HARDIN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® KENTUCKY 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 Brandon Bagley of John Hardin High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Kentucky Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Bagley is the first Gatorade Kentucky Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from John Hardin 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 Bagley as Kentucky'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, Bagley 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, 150-pound senior set a state record at the Class 3A state championship meet this spring, winning the 300-meter intermediate hurdles with a time of 37.83 seconds and leading the Bulldogs to eighth place as a team. A three-time state champion in the 110-meter high hurdles and a two-time state champion in the 300 hurdles, Bagley's time in the 300 hurdles this season ranked No. 70 in the nation among prep competitors at the time of his selection.

Bagley has maintained an unweighted 3.33 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as part of multiple community service initiatives with his church youth group.

"Brandon Bagley was dominant all season, indoors and out," said Jason Neuss, head coach of rival Male High. "He won both his individual races going away at state. He had a great year."

Bagley has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at the University of Kentucky beginning 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.

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