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**MOORHEAD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® MINNESOTA 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 Macauley Spandl of Moorhead High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Minnesota Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Spandl is the first Gatorade Minnesota Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Moorhead 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 Spandl as Minnesota'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, Spandl 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-9, 158-pound senior won the state pole vault title this spring, clearing 15 feet at the Class AA state meet. The USA Track & Field Athlete of the Month for May, Spandl set an all-time state record with a clearance of 15 feet, eight inches at the Moorhead Athletic Association Invitational in April, breaking the previous record of 15 feet, seven inches set by Anoka's Tim Koupal in 1997.

Spandl has maintained a 3.37 GPA in the classroom. A talented clay potter, he has participated in area competitions detailing classic cars and has volunteered locally at a nursing home and homeless shelter.

"Some kids like to go out and play catch, but Macauley Spandl likes to go out and play track," said Moorhead High Head Coach Jon Moe. "This is just something that comes so naturally to him and he's pretty darn good at it."

Spandl has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at the University of Minnesota 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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