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**LEBANON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 Dominic Filiano of Lebanon High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Filiano is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Lebanon 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 Filiano as New Hampshire'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, Filiano 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-7, 235-pound senior broke his own state record at the New England Championships this spring, winning the shot put with a throw of 64 feet, 1 inch to break a meet record that had stood since 1969—a throw that ranked No. 8 in the nation among prep competitors at the time of his selection. At the 2010 New Hampshire Meet of Champions, Filiano won the shot put with what was then a state-record throw of 62-5 and also launched the discus 165-6 to earn gold. Filiano is a nine-time Class I Meet champion, sweeping the shot put, discus and indoor shot put three times.

Filiano has maintained an unweighted 3.24 GPA in the classroom. The winner of Lebanon High's U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award and a member of the Lebanon High School Council, he has volunteered locally as a youth track coach and as part of a fundraising campaign for the Prouty, a charity bike race to benefit cancer research and patient services at New Hampshire's Norris Cotton Cancer Center.

"Dominic Filiano has really excelled," said Bob Mullen, head coach of rival Merrimack Valley High. "He's got the characteristics of an athlete. His mind and body can work together to make it happen. He's an amazingly powerful young man. He has all those God-given abilities and he hasn't wasted them. I admire everything that he's accomplished."

Filiano will attend Dartmouth College where he will compete in track and field 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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