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**CENTRAL BUCKS HIGH SCHOOL SOUTH STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® PENNSYLVANIA 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 Tom Mallon of Central Bucks High School South as its 2009-10 Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Mallon is the first Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Central Bucks High School South.

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 Mallon as Pennsylvania'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, Mallon 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 senior set a state record by clocking a 1:49.31 in winning the 800-meter run at the Class AAA state meet for the third consecutive season and led the Titans to second place as a team. Mallon's record effort was the No. 2 time in the nation at the time of his selection. He was also selected as the Men's Athlete of the Year by the Pennsylvania Track & Field Coaches Association.

Mallon has maintained a weighted 3.79 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of fundraising campaigns to benefit cancer research and has conducted drum lessons for special needs children in the community.

"Tom is that rare athlete who is able to consistently challenge and exceed his comfort level," said Central Bucks South Head Coach Mike Cox. "He has propelled our program to state and national recognition."

Mallon has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at Stanford University 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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