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**BRENTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® TENNESSEE 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 Kevin Lazas of Brentwood High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Tennessee Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Lazas is the second Gatorade Tennessee Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Brentwood 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 Lazas as Tennessee'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, Lazas 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 won the decathlon for the second straight year at the Class AAA state championship meet, leading the Bruins to their fourth straight team title this spring. Lazas won the decathlon, amassing 6,510 points despite failing to clear the bar in the high jump. He also placed second at the state meet in the pole vault with a clearance of 15 feet, and was seventh in the long jump with a leap of 22-5.25. At the Arcadia (Calif.) Invitational in April, Lazas placed second in the decathlon with 7,510 points, the third-best score in prep history.

Lazas has maintained a weighted 3.17 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered as part of multiple community service initiatives with his church youth group.

"In 10 events, Kevin doesn't have a weakness," said Gary Kinder, Lazas' coach with Kindersport Elite Athletics. "You almost can't find a decathlete without a weakness. At the high school level, he's good at all 10 events. At the state meet, he won the 100 and was second in the 1,500. He won the shot put. There's some good balance there."

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

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