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**ST. XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® KENTUCKY BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 23, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Oliver Brown of St. Xavier High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Kentucky Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Brown is the third Gatorade Kentucky Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Xavier 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 field, distinguishes Brown as Kentucky's best high school boys soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Brown joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Kevin Garnett (1992-93, Maudlin HS, S.C.), Tony Meola (1986-87, Kearney HS, N.J.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 6-foot-2 senior goalkeeper posted eight shutouts and a 0.40 goals-against average this past season, leading the Tigers (19-4-2) to the state tournament round of 16. A 2010 National Soccer Coaches Association of America Scholar All-American, Brown is a two-time First Team All-State selection. Brown concluded his prep soccer career with three state championships and 26 shutouts.

Brown has maintained a 3.74 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at a food bank, as a youth soccer instructor and on behalf of Habitat for Humanity.

"Oliver Brown physically is a monster," said Jonathan Velotta, Brown's club coach with Mockingbird Valley. "He's got great hands, everything sticks to him. He's terrific out in the air. He makes some saves that you don't see a goalkeeper make, especially around here."

Brown has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Denver 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.

Brown joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Boys Soccer Players of the Year Lepe Seetane (2009-10, Trinity), and two-time winner Kevin Bick (2008-09 & 2007-08, St. Xavier) among the state's list of former award winners.

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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