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**DEMATHA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MARYLAND 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 Cody Albrecht of DeMatha Catholic High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Maryland Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Albrecht is the second Gatorade Maryland Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from DeMatha Catholic 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 Albrecht as Maryland'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, Albrecht 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 5-foot-7, 150-pound senior midfielder recorded 10 goals and a state-record 31 assists, leading the Stags (24-0) to the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference Tournament championship. A 2010 ESPN RISE Second Team All-American selection, Albrecht was the Washington Post All-Met Player of the Year and the WCAC Player of the Year. Albrecht concluded his prep soccer career with 32 goals and 64 assists.

Albrecht has maintained a 3.45 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at a homeless shelter and as a youth soccer coach and official in addition to assisting in oil spill relief efforts along the Gulf Coast.

"Cody Albrecht makes goals happen," said Judah Cooks, Albrecht's club coach with DC United. "He's very technical and has got a nose for goal. He's small in stature, but he's a very intelligent soccer player—he knows where to be, he knows how to win games. That's a special quality, especially at his age."

Albrecht has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at St. John's 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.

Albrecht joins recent Gatorade Maryland Boys Soccer Players of the Year two-time winner Marquez Fernandez (2009-10 & 2008-09, McDonogh School), and Chris Agorsor (2007-08, McDonogh School) 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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