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**BILLINGS WEST HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MONTANA 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 Anthony Keene of Billings West High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Montana Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Keene is the third Gatorade Montana Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Billings West 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 Keene as Montana'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, Keene 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-10, 150-pound junior midfielder and defender recorded three goals and eight assists this past season, leading the Bears (12-3-1) to the Class AA state semifinals. A three-time Academic All-State selection, Keene was also an Eastern Division First Team All-State pick. He scored a goal for Billings West in the 2009 state championship game, helping the Bears to their second straight state title as a sophomore.

Keene has maintained a 3.48 GPA in the classroom. A member of his school's Ecology Club, he has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach and mentor in addition to completing service-mission trips to Mexico and New Orleans.

"Anthony Keene is not a real big guy, but he's very quick on the ball and has very good touch," said Paul Zazenski, Keene's club coach with Montana United. "He can run all day and he has very good vision for a high school player."

Keene will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Keene joins recent Gatorade Montana Boys Soccer Players of the Year Zach Moyers (2009-10, Billings West), Jack Pueringer (2008-09, Billings West), and Garion Holian (2007-08, Hellgate) 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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