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**MT. LEBANON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® PENNSYLVANIA 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 Zach Batteer of Mt. Lebanon High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Batteer is the second Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Mt. Lebanon 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 Batteer as Pennsylvania'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, Batteer 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, 160-pound senior forward recorded 28 goals and 12 assists this past season, leading the Blue Devils (13-4-3) to the District 7-AAA semifinals. A 2010 ESPN RISE First Team All-American, Batteer was also the Pennsylvania State Coaches Association Player of the Year and is now a two-time Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Player of the Year. A member of the U.S. Soccer Under-18 Men's National Team Player Pool, Batteer concluded his prep soccer career with 71 goals and 28 assists.

Batteer has maintained a 3.80 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach and has served as a member of his school's student council.

"Zach Batteer is all he's cracked up to be," said Gary Weber, Batteer's club coach with the Beadling Soccer Association. "He's technically very good and he understands the game at a little bit higher level than most players his age. He's extremely quick—I've seen him score some unbelievable goals. He makes the team better, makes the players around him better. He's a great teammate. It's fun to play with someone like that."

Batteer has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on 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.

Batteer joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Soccer Players of the Year Joseph Schmid (2009-10, Wyoming Valley West), Andrew Wenger (2008-09, Warwick), and Shane Pruitt (2007-08, Peters Township) 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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