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**PINEWOOD PREPARATORY SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® SOUTH CAROLINA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 10, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Robert Beebe of Pinewood Preparatory School as its 2010-11 Gatorade South Carolina Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Beebe is the first Gatorade South Carolina Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Pinewood Preparatory 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 Beebe as South Carolina'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, Beebe 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.), Tony Meola (1986-87, Kearney HS, N.J.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-4, 180-pound senior goaltender had led the Panthers (16-5-1) to the South Carolina Independent School Association Class AAA state quarterfinals against Heathwood Hall Episcopal School, scheduled for May 9. Beebe had recorded 12 shutouts in net through 22 games. A 2010 ESPN RISE Second Team All-American selection, Beebe has been the starting goalie on three consecutive SCISA Class AAA state championship teams entering the 2011 postseason.

Beebe has maintained an A-plus average in the classroom and will graduate as Pinewood Prep's valedictorian. He has volunteered locally through his school's Interact Club, providing food to the needy and Christmas gifts to children, and has also served as a youth mentor.

"Robert Beebe is a good leader and a good shot-stopper," said Rob Strickland, Beebe's club coach with South Carolina United. "He's everything you want in a goalie. He's quite an athlete."

Beebe has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of South Carolina 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.

Beebe joins recent Gatorade South Carolina Boys Soccer Players of the Year Emmett Lunceford (2009-10, Irmo) and two-time winner Enzo Martinez (2007-08 & 2008-09, Northwestern) 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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