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**ALTA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® UTAH BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 10, 2011) — In its 26<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Derek Boggs of Alta High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Utah Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Boggs is the fifth Gatorade Utah Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Alta 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 Boggs as Utah'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, Boggs 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.).

The 6-foot-1 senior midfielder has led the Hawks to a 13-1-1 record entering this week's regular-season contest with Pleasant Grove, scheduled for May 10. Boggs has scored 10 goals and passed for seven assists through 15 games. He was a *Deseret News* and *Salt Lake Tribune* First Team All-State selection in 2010.

Boggs has maintained a 3.72 GPA in the classroom. A peer tutor at his school, he has volunteered locally by serving food to the needy.

"Boggs really does it all," said Russ Boyer, head coach of rival Brighton High. "He has a great touch on the ball and distributes it very well. He's the heart and soul of that team."

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

Boggs joins recent Gatorade Utah Boys Soccer Players of the Year Thomas Loomis (2009-10, Brighton), James Rogers (2008-09, Highland), and Jake Hustedt (2007-08, Jordan) 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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