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**BUTLER TRADITIONAL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® KENTUCKY BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 1, 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 Lucas of Butler Traditional High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Kentucky Baseball Player of the Year. Lucas is the first Gatorade Kentucky Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Butler Traditional 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 Lucas as Kentucky's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in June, Lucas joins an elite alumni association of past state baseball award winners, including Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Roy Halladay (1994-95, Arvada West HS, Colo.), David Price (2003-04, Blackman HS, Tenn.), Chipper Jones (1989-90, Bolles School, Fla.), Derek Lee (1992-93, El Camino HS, Calif.) and John Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Prep, Wash.).

The 5-foot-11, 187-pound senior shortstop batted .450 with 11 home runs, 36 RBIs and 25 runs scored, leading the Bears to a 23-7 record and the first round of the state regional tournament. A 2010 First Team All-State selection, Lucas also compiled a .985 slugging percentage and stole 10 bases in 11 attempts.

Lucas has maintained a 3.41 GPA in the classroom. A senior class officer, he has served as his school's activities coordinator and volunteered locally on behalf of the Susan G. Komen Relay For Life fundraiser to benefit cancer research.

"Zach Lucas has not only been blessed with great talent, he also makes the most of those talents by working extremely hard to prepare for each season," said Butler High head coach Greg Lauder. "He shows up every day with a great attitude and a passion for baseball."

Lucas has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Louisville 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.

Lucas joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Baseball Players of the Year Trevor Gott (2009-10, Tates Creek), Luke Maile (2008-09; Covington Catholic), Robbie Ross (2007-08, Lexington Christian Academy), and Ben Revere (2006-07, Lexington Catholic), 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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