Contact: Ashley Ginascol (312-729-3622)

COVINA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE CALIFORNIA BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 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 Remontay McClain of Covina High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade California Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. McClain is the first Gatorade California Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Covina 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 track, distinguishes McClain as California's best high school boys track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, McClain joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ryan Hall (1999-01, Big Bear HS, Calif.), Meb Keflezighi (1993-94, San Diego HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.) and Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.).

The 6-foot-1 senior won the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.39 seconds and captured the 200-meter dash in 20.95 at the California Interscholastic Federation State Track & Field Championships this spring, leading the Colts to fifth place as a team. A returning First Team All-American as named by USA Today, McClain's 200-meter dash time of 20.68 seconds at the Southern Section Division Finals and 100-meter dash time of 10.31 in the CIF state meet preliminaries ranked as the nation's No. 2 performances among prep competitors at the time of his selection. He also placed first in the 100- and 200-meter dashes at the 2010 CIF state meet as a junior.

Also a football standout, McClain has maintained a B average in the classroom as an upperclassman. In addition to donating his time as a youth football instructor, he has volunteered locally as a mentor to middle school students who have struggled with learning disabilities.

"Besides his awesome athletic prowess over his competitors, Remontay is one of the most humble athletes I have ever been associated with," said Covina High head coach Kevin Glaspy. "For dominating so much, he has a very gracious attitude towards his competition and fans. That alone separates him from others."

McClain has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on an athletic scholarship at Azusa Pacific University in Los Angeles 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.

McClain joins recent Gatorade California Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Sean Krinik (2009-10, Valencia), Mac Fleet (2008-09, University City), and German Fernandez (2007-08, Riverbank) 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.