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MARTIN LUTHER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE WISCONSIN 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 Ben Schreib of Martin Luther High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Schreib is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Martin Luther 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 Schreib as Wisconsin'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, Schreib 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-2 senior jumper broke a 26-year-old Division II record in the triple jump with a leap of 46 feet, 10 inches at the Division II state meet this spring. He also won the long jump, soaring 22-11, leading the Spartans to a sixth-place finish as a team. Schreib also earned fourth place in the high jump, clearing 6-4. He set school records in all three of his events at the state meet.

Schreib has maintained a 3.57 GPA in the classroom. A devoted parishioner of his church community, he has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and Habitat for Humanity.

"To watch Ben Schreib in the triple jump is just amazing," said Dan Schulz, head coach of rival Shoreland Lutheran High. "He's a great kid and a great competitor and with the way he can jump you'd think he'd be pretty full of himself. He's not like that at all. He's extremely humble and likeable all the way around. I've always been very impressed with him as an athlete and as a human being."

Schreib has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on a track and field scholarship at the University of Wisconsin 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.

Schreib joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Gabe Genovesi (2009-10, Homestead), Matt Widule (2008-09, Menomonee Falls), and Paul Annear (2007-08, Richland Center) 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.