Contact: Adam Woullard (312-729-3627)

EDMOND MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE OKLAHOMA BOYS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 21, 2012) — In its 27th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Bryce Robinson of Edmond Memorial High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Robinson is the first Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Edmond Memorial 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 Robinson as Oklahoma'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, Robinson 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 5-foot-10 senior won the 100-meter dash with a time of 10.47 seconds and the 200-meter dash in 21.02 at the Class 6A state championship meet this spring, leading the Bulldogs to the state title as a team. Robinson also ran legs on the state championship 4×100 -meter and 4×400 -meter relay quartets, and won both the 100 (10.41) and the 200 (21.08) at the state Meet of Champions.

Robinson has maintained a 3.02 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of his church youth group, he has volunteered locally as a mentor for young students and has participated in mission trips to repair and restore the homes of underprivileged families.

"Bryce is a great leader and he has a positive attitude," said Edmond Memorial coach Chris Lowrey. "He's overcome many personal obstacles in life to become more than just an excellent athlete, but a wonderful young man. What makes his feats even more impressive is that this was his first year running track."

Robinson has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in track and field on scholarship at the University of Tulsa 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 ESPNHS 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.

Robinson joins recent Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Track & Field Athletes of the Year Gunnar Nixon (2009-10 & 2010-11, Edmond Santa Fe High School), Jack Whitt (2008-09, Norman North), and Geoffrey Tabor (2007-08, Ardmore) 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.