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CHAMINADE COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® MISSOURI BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 17, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Bradley Beal of Chaminade College Preparatory School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Missouri Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Beal is the second Gatorade Missouri Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Chaminade College Preparatory 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 court, distinguishes Beal as Missouri's best high school boys basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award to be announced in March, Beal joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Dwight Howard (2003-04, SW Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington HS, Colo.), Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame HS, Calif.), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood HS, Calif.) and Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln HS, Texas).

The 6-foot-4, 205-pound senior shooting guard averaged 32.4 points, 5.7 rebounds, 2.8 assists and 2.7 steals per game this past season, shooting 61 percent from the field and leading the Red Devils (27-1) to the Class 5 quarterfinals. The state's returning Gatorade Boys Basketball Player of the Year, Beal is a 2011 McDonald's High School All-American, a 2011 Jordan Brand Classic selection and is ranked as the nation's No. 7 recruit in the ESPNU Top 100. He helped Chaminade Prep to a state title as a sophomore in 2009.

Beal has maintained a 91.7 average in the classroom. He has volunteered on behalf of the St. Patrick Center, Missouri's largest homeless services provider, and the Wellness Center of St. Louis in addition to visiting the Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital as a goodwill ambassador to patients. Beal has also donated his time as a youth basketball camp and clinic instructor in addition to participating in Focus St. Louis, a diversity and multicultural initiative.

"Bradley Beal has been the ultimate leader on the floor, in the classroom and in the community," said Chaminade Head Coach Kelvin Lee. "He is a pleasure to coach and he is the first person to show up for practice and the last one to leave. He is the total package."

Beal has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Florida 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.

Two-time winner Beal joins recent Gatorade Missouri Boys Basketball Players of the Year Alec Burks (2008-09, Grandview High School) and Kramer Soderberg (2007-08, Saint Charles West), 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 <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u>.