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**DOVER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® DELAWARE BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 18, 2010) — In its 25th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Corey Crawford of Dover High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Delaware Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Crawford is the second Gatorade Delaware Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Dover 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 court, distinguishes Crawford as Delaware'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, Crawford joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Chris Paul (2002-03, West Forsyth HS, N.C.), Kevin Garnett (1992-93, Maudlin HS, S.C.), 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, 175-pound senior guard led the Senators (19-4) to the state final this past season, averaging 23.8 points, 4.5 rebounds and 3.5 assists per game. A two-time First Team All-State selection, Crawford scored 29 points, including the 1,000th of his career, in a 60-50 win over Tatnall High in the state semifinals. He also scored a team-high 18 points in a state final loss to the Sanford School.

Crawford has maintained a 93.1 average in the classroom. An active member of his church community, where he serves as a youth pastor, he has volunteered locally as part of humanitarian efforts to collect and send shoes to earthquake victims in Haiti.

"I don't know where we would be without Corey Crawford," said Dover High Head Coach Stephen Wilson. "He just plays all phases of the game so well. He can shoot, he can rebound and he can pass the ball as well as anyone. He's the heart and soul of our team."

Crawford remains undecided upon a college destination.

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.

Crawford joins recent Gatorade Delaware Boys Basketball Players of the Year Paul Reynolds (2008-09, Smyrna), Eriq Gumbs (2007-08, Caravel Academy), and Jarrett Mann (2006-07, Middletown) among the state's list of former award winners.

To celebrate the award's 25th anniversary, Gatorade wants you to vote for the All-Time Greatest Players of the Year at gatorade.com/POY25. 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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