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**SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® IDAHO 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 Kyle Dranginis of Skyview High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Idaho Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Dranginis is the third Gatorade Idaho Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Skyview 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 Dranginis as Idaho'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, Dranginis 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-4 junior point guard led the Hawks (21-5) to the Class 4A quarterfinals this past season, averaging 21 points, 6.1 assists and six rebounds per game. A two-time First Team All-State selection and the 2009 Class 4A Player of the Year, Dranginis scored 75 points in three state tournament games this season, finishing just five points shy of setting a new Class 4A tournament record.

Dranginis has maintained a 3.61 GPA in the classroom. An active member of his church community, he has volunteered locally on behalf of Shoebox Ministries and has raised funds to benefit breast cancer research.

"The thing that impresses me the most about Dranginis is his composure on the court," said Reggie Guerrero, head coach of rival Columbia High. "He does such a great job leading his team and he plays the point like a 10-year NBA veteran."

Dranginis has verbally committed to play basketball on scholarship at Gonzaga University beginning in the fall of 2011.

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.

Dranginis joins recent Gatorade Idaho Boys Basketball Players of the Year Josh Fuller (2008-09, Madison), Mitch Bruneel (2007-08, Eagle), and Matt Ballenger (2006-07, Skyview) 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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