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**ST. MARK'S SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MASSACHUSETTS 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 Nate Lubick of St. Mark's School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Basketball Player of the Year.

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 Lubick as Massachusetts' 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, Lubick 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-9, 238-pound senior forward led the Lions (23-6) to the New England Prep School Athletic Council Class C championship game this past season, averaging 21.7 points, 10.3 rebounds, 4.5 assists and 2.7 blocks per game. The returning Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Basketball Player of the Year, Lubick was a 2010 McDonald's High School All-American Game selection committee nominee and will play for the U.S. All-Stars in the Capital Classic next month in Washington, D.C.

Lubick has maintained a B average in the classroom. An accomplished singer who is currently recording, he has volunteered locally with the Special Olympics and the Boys and Girls Club of MetroWest.

"Nate Lubick's best quality is his will to win," said John Carroll, the former coach of the Boston Celtics and Lubick's Amateur Athletics Union club coach with the New England Playaz. "I know that sounds kind of corny, but it's not. Nate fills up stat sheets with rebounds and points, but that guy is just a winner and knows how to win. He's one of the smartest, toughest kids I've ever been around. And that's not just dealing with high school kids."

Lubick has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Georgetown University 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.

Lubick joins recent Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Basketball Players of the Year Stevie Mejia (2007-08, Lawrence Academy) and Mike Baldarelli (2006-07, Holy Name Central Catholic) 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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