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Contact: Julie Mason (412-561-1014)

**BISHOP GORMAN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEVADA 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 Johnathan Loyd of Bishop Gorman High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Nevada Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Loyd is the fifth Gatorade Nevada Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Bishop Gorman 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 Loyd as Nevada'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, Loyd 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 5-foot-9, 165-pound senior point guard led the Gaels (30-2) to their second straight Class 4A state title this past season, averaging 14.1 points, 8.2 assists, 4.2 rebounds and 3.2 steals per game. The 2010 *Las Vegas Review-Journal* Player of the Year, Loyd helped Bishop Gorman win 103 games as a four-year varsity starter. He is a two-time First Team All-State selection and he scored nine points to go with five assists in the Class 4A state final win over Canyon Springs High.

Loyd has maintained a 3.30 GPA in the classroom. An active member of his church community, he has volunteered locally as a youth basketball camp counselor.

"Johnathan Loyd is a true winner in every way," said Bishop Gorman High Head Coach Grant Rice. "This year, he has been incredible. There are a lot of really good players this year in Nevada but he is hands down the most valuable with everything he brings to the table."

Loyd 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.

Loyd joins recent Gatorade Nevada Boys Basketball Players of the Year Anthony Marshall (2008-09, Mojave) and Luke Babbitt (2007-08 & 2006-07, Galena) 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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