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NEUMANN-GORETTI HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® PENNSYLVANIA 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 Tony Chennault of Neumann-Goretti High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Chennault is the first Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Neumann-Goretti 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 Chennault as Pennsylvania'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, Chennault 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-2 senior guard has led the Saints (27-1) to a No. 6 ranking nationally in the ESPN RISE Fab 50 and the Class AAA quarterfinals, scheduled for March 19. Entering Friday's game with Archbishop Carroll, Chennault boasted averages of 19.3 points, 5.8 rebounds and 2.5 assists per game. A First Team All-State selection in 2009, Chennault is also a two-time MVP of the Philadelphia Catholic League's Blue Division.

Chennault has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of youth sports programs and as a peer tutor.

"Chennault is strong and quick and he has great court vision," said Rick Sabol, head coach of rival Conwell-Egan Catholic High. "He never dogs it and he's always very active on the defensive end of the court."

Chennault has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Wake Forest 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.

Chennault joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Basketball Players of the Year Maalik Wayns (2008-09, Roman Catholic), Brian Walsh (2007-08, Moon Area), and Jeff Jones (2006-07, Monsignor Bonner) 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 <u>gatorade.com/POY25</u>. 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>.