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**SENECA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® MARYLAND GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 11, 2010) — In its 25<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Kelsey Wolfe of Seneca Valley High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Maryland Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Wolfe is the first Gatorade Maryland Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Seneca Valley 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 Wolfe as Maryland's best high school girls basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Basketball Player of the Year award announced in March, Wolfe joins an elite alumni association of past state girls basketball award-winners, including Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Diana Taurasi (1998-99 & 1999-00, Don Antonio Lugo HS, Calif.), Maya Moore (2005-06 Collins Hill HS, Ga.), Rashanda McCants (2004-05, Asheville HS, N.C.), Shyra Ely (1999-00, Ben Davis HS, Ind.) and Lisa Leslie (1988-89, Morningside HS, Calif.)

The 5-foot-11 senior guard has led the Screaming Eagles (25-0) to the 2010 Class 3A state semifinals, scheduled for March 11. Entering the postseason's final four, Wolfe boasted averages of 20.1 points, 4.8 rebounds, 3.5 assists and 3.1 steals per game. A 2010 McDonald's All-American Game selection committee nominee and a 2009 Montgomery Gazette First Team All-Area pick, Wolfe is Seneca Valley's all-time leader in career points with 1,748 at the time of her selection.

Wolfe has maintained a 3.39 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as an elementary school tutor, a youth basketball coach and on behalf of Meals on Wheels.

"Kelsey Wolfe does a million things for her team," said Herb Krusen, a coach with the Maryland Flames AAU team. "Watching her play the last couple weeks, she's gotten better and better and stronger and more confident. She's impossible to guard in high school."

Wolfe has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Virginia 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.

Wolfe joins recent Gatorade Maryland Girls Basketball Players of the Year Tianna Hawkins (2008-09, Riverdale Baptist), Tarik Hislop (2007-08, Paint Branch), and Marah Strickland (2006-07, Towson Catholic) among the state's list of former award winners.

To celebrate the award's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Gatorade wants you to vote for the All-Time Greatest Players of the Year at [gatorade.com/POY25](http://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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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