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**PEDDIE SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEW JERSEY GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 11, 2010) — In its 25th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Haley Peters of Peddie School as its 2009-10 Gatorade New Jersey Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Peters is the second Gatorade New Jersey Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Peddie 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 Peters as New Jersey'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, Peters 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 6-foot-3 senior and four-year starter led the Falcons (23-2) to their fourth Prep A state title this past season, averaging 19.6 points, 8.1 rebounds, 3.2 assists and 2.5 steals per game. The New Jersey Prep Player of the Year, Peters is a four-time All-State selection and 2010 McDonald's All-American honoree.

Peters has maintained an A-plus average in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of St. Ann's Soup Kitchen and the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

"Peters is a terrific basketball player, combining inside post moves with a soft touch on the perimeter," said Bill Holup, head coach of rival the Hun School. "Even with her size she is athletic enough to grab defensive rebounds and lead the fast break with ball-handling skills comparable to some of the better point guards I've seen play."

Peters has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Duke 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.

Peters joins recent Gatorade New Jersey Girls Basketball Players of the Year Laurin Mincy (2008-09, University), Lakeisha Sutton (2007-08, Trenton Catholic), and Tayler Wejnert (2006-07, Academy of the Holy Angels) 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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