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CLACKAMAS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® OREGON 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 Jen Reese of Clackamas High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Oregon Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Reese is the first Gatorade Oregon Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Clackamas 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 Reese as Oregon'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, Reese 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-2 junior forward led the Cavaliers (21-3) to the Class 6A state tournament round of 16 this past season, averaging 21.0 points, 12.4 rebounds, 2.0 steals, 1.9 blocks and 1.6 assists per game. A two-time Three Rivers League Player of the Year and a 2009 First Team All-State selection, Reese recorded a double-double in 18 of Clackamas High's 24 games, including three games with at least 20 points and 20 rebounds.

Reese has maintained a B average in the classroom. She has volunteered as a local youth basketball coach and has donated her time on behalf of Clackamas High's Winter Rage, collecting donations to benefit the needy.

"Jen Reese is unbelievably good in the low post and is good out to 3-point range," said Michael Abraham, Reese's coach with Team Concept AAU. "She's not the quickest kid, but she maximizes her footwork and movement. She doesn't jump super high, but she seems to have great timing for the ball so she blocks tons of shots and gets tons of rebounds."

Reese will begin her senior year of high school 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.

Reese joins recent Gatorade Oregon Girls Basketball Players of the Year Kate Lanz (2008-09 & 2007-08, Central Catholic) and Michelle Jenkins (2006-07, Southridge) 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>.