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**PRINCESS ANNE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® VIRGINIA 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 Elizabeth Williams of Princess Anne High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Virginia Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Williams is the first Gatorade Virginia Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Princess Anne 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 Williams as Virginia'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, Williams 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.)

At the time of her selection, the 6-foot-3 junior center had led the Cavaliers (28-1) to a top-25 national ranking. Entering Wednesday's Group AAA state semifinals, Williams boasted averages of 17.0 points, 11.0 rebounds, 5.4 blocks, 2.7 steals and 2.4 assists per game. A two-time Eastern Region Player of the Year, Williams had recorded three consecutive triple-doubles heading into the state semifinals, giving her five for the season and 10 for her career. The No. 1-rated recruit in the Class of 2011 by ESPN HoopGurlz, Williams led the United States to the gold medal at the 2009 FIBA Americas U16 Championships for Women in Mexico City, where she was named tournament MVP.

Williams has maintained a 3.7 GPA in the classroom. An accomplished trombone player, she has volunteered locally on behalf of Ronald McDonald House Charities and at a local children's carnival.

"Elizabeth Williams, she's got a knack for blocking shots," said Boo Williams, Elizabeth Williams' AAU coach. "She closes the lane down. She's an Alonzo Mourning-Bill Russell type player. She takes such pride in playing defense. I've seen better offensive players, but I've never seen anyone do as well defensively, offensively and rebounding the ball."

Williams 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.

Williams joins recent Gatorade Virginia Girls Basketball Players of the Year Tierra Ruffin-Pratt (2008-09 & 2007-08, T.C. Williams) and Jasmine Thomas (2006-07, Oakton) 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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