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**DIMOND HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® ALASKA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 10, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Keiahnna Engel of Dimond High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Alaska Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Engel is the first Gatorade Alaska Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Dimond 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 Engel as Alaska'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, Engel 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-9 senior guard has led the Lynx to a 24-2 record and a berth in the Class 4A state tournament against West Valley, scheduled for March 17. At the time of her selection, Engel was averaging 19.3 points, 7.1 rebounds, 6.2 assists and 3.8 steals per game. The state's returning Gatorade Girls Basketball Player of the Year, Engel was named Cook Inlet Conference Player of the Year for the third consecutive year. She was also the Class 4A Player of the Year in 2010.

Engel has maintained a 3.10 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of youth basketball camps and clinics.

"She's a smooth guard who plays the whole floor," said Ryan Hales, head coach of rival Chugiak High. "She can attack the basket and get to the hoop whenever she wants to, but she also sees the floor and gets the ball to the open person."

Engel has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Boise State 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.

Two-time winner Engel joins recent Gatorade Alaska Girls Basketball Players of the Year Jenna Johnson (2008-09, Wasilla) and Sylvia Bullock (2007-08, South Anchorage) among the state's list of former award winners.

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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