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**LONGMONT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® COLORADO GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 10, 2011) — In its 26<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Jamie Katuna of Longmont High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Colorado Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Katuna is the first Gatorade Colorado Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Longmont 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 Katuna as Colorado'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, Katuna 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-7 senior shooting guard has led the Trojans to a 24-1 record and a berth in the Class 4A state semifinals against Mesa Ridge, scheduled for March 9. At the time of her selection, Katuna had averaged 23.7 points, 4.4 rebounds, four assists, and three steals per game while shooting 81.3 percent from the free-throw line. The 2010 Northern Conference Player of the Year, she scored a season-high 40 points on 15-of-22 shooting in a win over Moffat County in the second round of the Class 4A state tournament.

Katuna has maintained a 4.02 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society, she has volunteered locally as a youth basketball coach, referee and camp counselor.

"Jamie Katuna works harder than any other kid I've ever had the chance to coach," said Longmont Head Coach Jay Darien. "She studies our competition and prepares for games in a way that most kids don't. She is absolutely one of a kind."

Katuna has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of San Francisco 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.

Katuna joins recent Gatorade Colorado Girls Basketball Players of the Year Quincey Noonan (2009-10, Legacy), Anna Prins (2008-09, Broomfield), and Alyssa Fressle (2007-08, Highlands Ranch) 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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