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**BOISE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® IDAHO 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 Jackie Luna-Castro of Boise High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Luna-Castro is the second Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Boise 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 Luna-Castro as Idaho'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, Luna-Castro 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 senior forward averaged 18.9 points, 10.6 rebounds, 3.1 blocks and 1.3 steals this past season while shooting 80.2 percent from the free throw line and leading the Braves (20-6) to the first round of the Class 5A state tournament. The 2010-11 Southern Idaho Conference Player of the Year, Luna-Castro set a state record by connecting on 28 consecutive free throws in three state tournament games.

Luna-Castro has maintained a 3.28 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of Susan G. Komen for the Cure to benefit breast cancer research in addition to donating her time at a food bank, a homeless shelter and as a youth volleyball and basketball coach.

"Jackie Luna-Castro is a terrific player," said Cheryl Hutchinson, head coach of rival Rocky Mountain High. "What makes her a real threat is that she makes shots for herself. She's a leader on the floor and plays hard the whole game."

Luna-Castro has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at The University of California at Santa Barbara 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.

Luna-Castro joins recent Gatorade Idaho Girls Basketball Players of the Year Katelyn Loper (2009-10, Post Falls) and Katie Baker (2007-08 & 2008-09, Lake City) 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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