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**ANDOVER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MASSACHUSETTS 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 Nicole Boudreau of Andover High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Massachusetts Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Boudreau is the first Gatorade Massachusetts Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Andover 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 Boudreau as Massachusetts'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, Boudreau 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-8 junior guard led the Warriors to a 23-1 record entering the Division 1 North Sectional semifinals against Central Catholic High, scheduled for March 9. At the time of her selection, Boudreau was averaging 22.3 points, 7.9 rebounds, 6.0 steals, 4.8 assists and 2.7 blocks per game. The 2011 Merrimack Valley Conference Player of the Year, she had connected on 85 three-pointers at the time of her selection and had scored 1,511 career points.

Boudreau has maintained a 4.0 weighted GPA in the classroom. An elite teen golfer who is the junior champion at Andover Country Club, she has volunteered locally as a youth basketball coach and tutor.

"Nicole Boudreau is their leader, their emotional leader," said Sue Downer, head coach of rival Central Catholic High. "When they're down, she's the one rallying them together. She wants the big shot. Nicole has elevated her game. You know she's a fantastic shooter, but she's got a great drive, too. That's the aspect she's gotten better at. She can now go inside, which before she couldn't really do."

Boudreau has verbally committed to play basketball on scholarship at Boston College beginning in the fall of 2012.

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.

Boudreau joins recent Gatorade Massachusetts Girls Basketball Players of the Year Lauren Battista (2009-10, Oliver Ames), Bilqis Abdul-Qaadir (2008-09, New Leadership Charter School), and Felicia Barron (2007-08, Springfield Central) 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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