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**BARRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® RHODE ISLAND 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 Kelly Mannix of Barrington High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Rhode Island Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Mannix is the first Gatorade Rhode Island Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Barrington 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 Mannix as Rhode Island'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, Mannix 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-10 senior guard and forward averaged 15.4 points, 12.5 rebounds, 3.8 assists, 3.8 steals and 1.1 blocks per game this past season, leading the Eagles (23-2) to the Division I state semifinals. A 2010 First Team All-State selection and the 2009 Division II Player of the Year, Mannix connected on 47.7 percent of her field goals including 14-of-22 shots from 3-point range. She concluded her prep basketball career with 1,395 points and 1,007 rebounds.

Mannix has maintained a 4.02-unweighted GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as part of fundraising campaigns to benefit Barrington High athletics in addition to serving as a youth basketball coach and counselor.

"Her intensity, her desire, her hustle—she does so much for that Barrington team," said Marty Crowley, head coach of Burrillville High. "She's the engine that makes them run. She does all the grunt work. She does the little things that can go unnoticed. Because of her desire and hustle, that's where she gets her notice from. She's probably one of the toughest kids I've ever seen."

Mannix has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Adelphi University in New York 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.

Mannix joins recent Gatorade Rhode Island Girls Basketball Players of the Year Allie Jones (2009-10, South Kingstown), Torey Jones (2008-09, La Salle Academy), and Brittany Wilson (2007-08, St. Mary Academy-Bay View) 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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