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**RIVERDALE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® TENNESSEE 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 Shacobia Barbee of Riverdale High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Tennessee Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Barbee is the first Gatorade Tennessee Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Riverdale 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 Barbee as Tennessee'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, Barbee 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-11 junior forward has led the Warriors to a 31-1 record and a berth in the Division I Class AAA state quarterfinals against Knoxville West High, scheduled for March 10. The returning Player of the Year as named by The Tennessean, Barbee has averaged 18 points, nine rebounds, four steals, three assists and one block per game. Entering the postseason elite eight, she was shooting 60 percent from the field, 31 percent from 3-point range and 66 percent from the free-throw line. A 2010 ESPN RISE Underclass All-American, Barbee produced 18 points and 10 rebounds per contest as a junior, leading Riverdale to the Division I Class AAA state title and capturing tournament Most Valuable Player honors.

Barbee has maintained a 3.45 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating her time as a youth basketball instructor, she has volunteered locally on behalf of her church.

"Her determination and focus is far beyond her age," said Riverdale Head Coach John Wild. "She has great work ethic on and off the court. She reflects outstanding leadership through her willingness to improve as an individual as well as a teammate. Shacobia is not a quitter, nor does she accept failure. She has a drive that takes over when her team needs her and will never back down from a challenge. She responds to adversity and can make adjustments as needed."

Barbee will begin her senior year of high school 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.

Barbee joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Girls Basketball Players of the Year Taylor Hall (2009-10, Morristown-Hamblen West), Faith Dupree (2008-09, Webb School of Knoxville), and Glory Johnson (2007-08, Webb School of Knoxville) 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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