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**CHRIST SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® NORTH CAROLINA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 17, 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 Marshall Plumlee of Christ School as its 2010-11 Gatorade North Carolina Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Plumlee is the first Gatorade North Carolina Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Christ 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 Plumlee as North Carolina's best high school boys basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award to be announced in March, Plumlee joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Dwight Howard (2003-04, SW Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington HS, Colo.), Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame HS, Calif.), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood HS, Calif.) and Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln HS, Texas).

The 7-foot, 220-pound senior center led the Greenies to a 32-5 record and a fourth consecutive North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association Class 3A state championship this past season. Plumlee recorded 13 points, 10 rebounds, two assists and one block in the 59-57 state title-clinching victory against Charlotte Christian School. A McDonald's High School All-American Game selection, he averaged 11.5 points, 10.3 rebounds, 2.5 blocks and 1.5 assists per game in 2010-11. Plumlee shot 56.7 percent from the field and 77.1 percent from the free-throw line. Also a two-time NCISAA All-State selection, he produced 8.0 points, 8.5 rebounds and three blocks per contest as a junior.

Plumlee has maintained a 4.06 weighted GPA in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade Award's broad criteria. In addition to serving as a dormitory prefect and chair of his school's Honor council, he has volunteered in association with the National Honor Society.

"He plays with great intensity on both ends of the floor," said Paul Biancardi, National Director for ESPN Basketball Recruiting. "He's an inside presence offensively with a nice jump hook and drop-step move. Defensively, he's a rim protector; he can block shots or make it difficult for opponents to score over him. He's a consistent rebounder at both ends. He cares so much about his team, and that's one of the most important qualities an athlete can have. Along with being an exceptional player and a high-level student, he's an excellent teammate."

Plumlee has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Duke University 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.

Plumlee joins recent Gatorade North Carolina Boys Basketball Players of the Year Reggie Bullock (2009-10, Kinston), Ryan Kelly (2008-09, Ravenscroft), and Ty Walker (2007-08, New Hanover), 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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