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WAYNE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® OHIO BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 17, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Travis Trice of Wayne High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Ohio Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Trice is the first Gatorade Ohio Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Wayne 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 Trice as Ohio'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, Trice 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 6-foot, 167-pound senior guard averaged 24.4 points, 7.2 assists, 4.5 steals and 3.3 rebounds per game this past season, leading the Warriors (22-2) to the Division I district final. The 2010-11 Southwest District Player of the Year, he concluded his prep career as Wayne High's record-holder with 1,555 points.

Trice has maintained a 3.48 GPA in the classroom. A devoted parishioner in his church community, he has volunteered locally as a guest-speaker role model at an elementary school and on behalf of food and clothing drives for the needy.

"I have coached against Travis Trice for four years and he can beat you in so many ways," said Henry Bias, head coach of rival Kettering Fairmont High. "He can shoot long-range three-pointers with tremendous consistency. He hits pull-up jumpers and drives to the net and gets fouled. He is a fierce competitor and one of the best players I have seen in the area in 20 years."

Trice has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at Michigan State 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.

Trice joins recent Gatorade Ohio Boys Basketball Players of the Year Jordan Sibert (2009-10, Princeton), C.J. McCollum (2008-09, GlenOak), and B.J. Mullens (2007-08, Canal Winchester) 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 <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u>.