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**JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® OREGON 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 Kyle Wiltjer of Jesuit High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Oregon Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Wiltjer is the first Gatorade Oregon Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Jesuit 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 Wiltjer as Oregon'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, Wiltjer 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-10, 230-pound senior forward led the Crusaders to a 26-2 record and a third consecutive Class 6A state championship this past season. Wiltjer recorded 13 points, five rebounds and two blocks in the 60-46 state title-clinching win over Westview High. A McDonald's High School All-American and Jordan Brand Classic selection, he averaged 19.6 points, 7.8 rebounds and 2.5 assists per game in 2010-11, shooting 52.5 percent from the field, 40.3 percent from 3-point range and 81.4 percent from the free-throw line. Possessing dual citizenship, Wiltjer was a member of the Canada Basketball's 2010 Junior Men's National Team. A returning Class 6A First Team All-State selection, he produced 16.4 points, 6.5 rebounds and 3.0 assists per contest as a high school junior in 2009-10.

Wiltjer has maintained a 3.22 GPA in the classroom. A Jesuit High student ambassador, he has volunteered serving the needy on behalf of the Loaves & Fishes Family Kitchen and has participated in the Camp to Belong's effort to reunite through year-round events siblings placed in separate foster, adoptive or kinship homes.

"We all know his body of work," said Pat Coons, head coach of rival Westview High. "He's a major impact player. His scoring, rebounding, shooting and passing are all good, but it's his defense that makes the biggest impact. He's so smart, and he changes so many shots. I don't think there's any question he's the most dominant player in the state at all things. His individual statistics may not be the highest, but he's a great player that knows how to fit into a great team. I'm sure Kentucky noticed that."

Wiltjer has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Kentucky 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.

Wiltjer joins recent Gatorade Oregon Boys Basketball Players of the Year Garrett Jackson (2009-10, Westview), E. J. Singler (2008-09, South Medford), and Brad Tinsley (2007-08, Oregon City), 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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