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WINNER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® SOUTH DAKOTA 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 Zach Horstman of Winner High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade South Dakota Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Horstman is the first Gatorade South Dakota Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Winner 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 Horstman as South Dakota'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, Horstman 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-6 senior guard led the Warriors to a 20-3 record and a berth in the Class A quarterfinals against Vioborg/Hurley, scheduled for March 17. At the time of his selection, Horstman was averaging 18.1 points, 6.1 rebounds, 3.8 assists and 3.7 steals per game. He is a two-time All-State selection and holds school career records for points, rebounds and steals.

Horstman has maintained a 3.36 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of his church community, he has volunteered locally on behalf of youth baseball, basketball and football programs.

"Horstman is a well-balanced player," said Todd Neuendorf, head coach of rival Aberdeen Roncalli. "He can handle the ball, take it to the basket, pull up and shoot the mid-range jumper and he has unbelievable range from the 3-point line."

Horstman has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at South Dakota 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.

Horstman joins recent Gatorade South Dakota Boys Basketball Players of the Year Jared Hannigan (2009-10, Central), Tony Fiegen (2008-09, Madison), and Louie Krogman (2007-08, White River), 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>.