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**GEORGETOWN VISITATION PREPARATORY SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 13, 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 Grace Carr of Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School as its 2010-11 Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year. Carr is the second Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Georgetown Visitation Preparatory 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 racecourse, distinguishes Carr as District of Columbia's best high school girls cross country runner. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year award to be announced in January, Carr joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ryan Hall (1999-00, 2000-01, Big Bear HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Kevin Garnett (1992-93, Maudlin HS, S.C.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-2 junior raced to second place individually and first among runners from the District at the Maryland/D.C. Private School Championships this past season with a time of 19:38, leading the Cubs to first place as a team. Carr also finished second at the Independent School League Championships, second at the Episcopal Relays and sixth at the William & Mary Invitational.

Carr has maintained a 4.15 GPA in the classroom. A dedicated member of her church community, she has volunteered locally feeding the homeless.

"It was her first year of cross country, but I knew she'd have success," said Georgetown Visitation head coach Kevin Hughes. "She has a great endurance base. She's the type of runner who can run all day."

Carr 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.

Carr joins Gatorade District of Columbia Girls Cross Country Runners of the Year Marisa Repka (2009-10, Sidwell Friends School), Moira Ryan (2008-09, Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School), and Juashaunna Kelly (2007-08, Roosevelt) as athletes who have won the cross country award since its inception in 2007.

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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