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**FAYETTEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE ARKANSAS GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 13, 2010) — In its 25th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Anne Mitchell of Fayetteville High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Arkansas Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Mitchell is the second Gatorade Arkansas Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Fayetteville 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 field, distinguishes Mitchell as Arkansas' best high school girls soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Mitchell joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Kevin Garnett (1992-93, Maudlin HS, S.C.), Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, East Brunswick HS, N.J.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-7 junior forward and midfielder led the Bulldogs (14-6-2) to the Class 7A state championship this past season, recording 17 goals and nine assists. A 2009 Class 7A All-State selection, Mitchell was named to the Class 7A All-Tournament Team in 2010, tallying three goals and one assist in Fayetteville's four-game run to the state title.

Mitchell has maintained a 3.94 GPA in the classroom. A member of her school's math club and Spanish National Honor Society, she completed a service mission trip to the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina and has volunteered locally with the Special Olympics and as a camp counselor for both children and disabled adults.

"Her first two years, she was all speed," said Chris Leshinski, head coach of rival Heritage Rogers High. "This year she's starting to gain control, mix her speed with finesse and finishing. Opposing coaches try to take her out of the game. To get a victory they know they have to stop her."

Mitchell 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.

Mitchell joins recent Gatorade Arkansas Girls Soccer Players of the Year April Miller (2008-09, Bentonville), Mary Pat Hardin (2007-08, Mount St. Mary Academy), and Alyvia Rogers (2006-07, Rogers) 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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