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## BATON ROUGE MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE LOUISIANA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 13, 2010) — In its 25<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Emily Cancienne of Baton Rouge Magnet High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Louisiana Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Cancienne is the second Gatorade Louisiana Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Baton Rouge Magnet 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 Cancienne as Louisiana's 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, Cancienne 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-6 senior forward recorded 44 goals and 23 assists this past season, leading the Bulldogs (15-5-1) to the Division I state quarterfinals. The Baton Rouge All-Metro MVP, Cancienne has been a First Team All-State selection each of the past two years. She scored a school-record 122 goals in her career.

Cancienne has maintained a B average in the classroom. An active member of her church youth group, she has volunteered locally on behalf of Habitat for Humanity and as part of cleanup efforts following Hurricanes Katrina and Gustav.

"Cancienne is extremely physical and aggressive," said Tooraj Badie, head coach of rival Sacred Heart High. "She's got a great shot, a great header. And she can really play possession soccer. She's a dominating player."

Cancienne has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Louisiana 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.

Cancienne joins recent Gatorade Louisiana Girls Soccer Players of the Year Tricia Johnson (2008-09, St. Scholastica Academy), Kellie Murphy (2007-08, St. Thomas More Catholic), and Hannah Macormic (2006-07, Mandeville) 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.