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**CENTREVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE VIRGINIA 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 Jenna Richmond of Centreville High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Virginia Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Richmond is the first Gatorade Virginia Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Centreville 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 Richmond as Virginia'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, Richmond 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-9 senior midfielder had led the Wildcats (8-2-2) to the No. 4 ranking in the Metro area by the *Washington Post* with the regular season still in progress at the time of her selection, recording 13 goals and six assists in eight starts. Also the 2008-09 Gatorade Virginia Girls Soccer Player of the Year, Richmond is a member of the U.S. Soccer Federation Under-20 Women's National Team and is a two-time *Washington Post* First Team All-Met selection. The nation's No. 1 recruit in the Class of 2010 as rated by TopDrawerSoccer.com, Richmond had recorded 30 goals and 21 assists in her prep career through Centreville's first 12 games this season.

Richmond has maintained a 3.52 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as part of a fundraising campaign to benefit Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome research and has served as a member of her school's student government Leadership Council.

"Jenna is a very technical player," said Kat Mertz, an assistant coach with the U.S. Soccer Federation Under-20 Women's National Team. "She has good vision on the field and she connects a lot of simple passes. She plays the proper pass. She's just a good well-rounded player. She's got a great work ethic; she brings something good to the team."

Richmond has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at UCLA 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.

Richmond joins recent Gatorade Virginia Girls Soccer Players of the Year Brook Chang (2007-08, Bishop O'Connell) and Liz Carroll (2006-07, Bishop O'Connell) 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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