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**WEST JESSAMINE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE KENTUCKY GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 10, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Arin Gilliland of West Jessamine High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Kentucky Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Gilliland is the first Gatorade Kentucky Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from West Jessamine 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 Gilliland as Kentucky'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, Gilliland 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 senior forward recorded 23 goals and 11 assists this past season, leading the Colts (17-4-1) to the district semifinals of the state tournament. A member of the U.S. Soccer Under-20 Women's National Team Player Pool, Gilliland is a 2010 ESPN RISE First Team All-American selection and the Kentucky High School Athletic Association's Miss Soccer. She concluded her prep soccer career with 109 goals and 40 assists.

Gilliland has maintained a 3.81 weighted GPA in the classroom. A mentor in her school's Teens Against Tobacco Usage program, she has volunteered locally at the Ronald McDonald House and as part of a fundraising campaign to benefit cancer research.

"What sets Arin Gilliland apart is she can really change a game and carry a team," said Chris Moore, head coach of rival Sacred Heart Academy. "Versatility-wise, against us she played a lot of sweeper. At times, she moved to midfield or up top and that caused us a lot of problems. She has a lot of speed, a lot of talent and has really good skill on the ball."

Gilliland has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Kentucky 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.

Gilliland joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Girls Soccer Players of the Year Jackie Hafele (2009-10, Sacred Heart Academy), Nikki Hafele (2008-09, Sacred Heart Academy) and Jenna Goblirsch (2007-08, Elizabethtown High School) 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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