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Contact: Ashley Ginascol (312-729-3622)

**EDEN PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE MINNESOTA 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 Taylor Uhl of Eden Prairie High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Minnesota Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Uhl is the first Gatorade Minnesota Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Eden Prairie 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 Uhl as Minnesota'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, Uhl 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 forward led the Eagles to a 20-0-1 record and the Class AA state championship this past season. Uhl scored 30 goals and passed for five assists, including a hat trick in Eden Prairie's 3-0 win over Wayzata in the state title game. The Minnesota State High School Soccer Coaches Association's Class AA Miss Soccer, Uhl was the Minneapolis Star Tribune's Player of the Year and an ESPN RISE Second Team All-American selection. She concluded her prep soccer career with 91 goals and 34 assists.

Uhl has maintained a 3.97 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally at an area homeless shelter and food bank and as a youth soccer coach and instructor, and has also served as a mentor to disabled children.

"Taylor Uhl has clearly been the most outstanding player in the state," said Simon Whitehead, head coach of rival Edina High. "She's an unbelievable goal scorer. She's a big kid, very strong, very fast and can finish. She's just always there to get the winning goal, all the time."

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

Uhl joins recent Gatorade Minnesota Girls Soccer Players of the Year Kasey Kallman (2009-10, Woodbury), Catie Sessions (2008-09, Woodbury High School), and Krista Lundgren (2007-08, Lakeville South 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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