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Contact: Ashley Ginascol (312-729-3622)

**WALSH JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE OHIO 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 Sandra Yu of Walsh Jesuit High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Ohio Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Yu is the second Gatorade Ohio Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Walsh Jesuit 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 Yu as Ohio'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, Yu 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-4 sophomore midfielder led the Warriors to a 19-1-3 record, the Division I state championship and a No. 1 national ranking in the ESPN RISE Fab 50 this past season. Yu scored 18 goals and passed for 18 assists, including two goals and an assist in Walsh Jesuit's 3-0 win over Pickerington North in the state title game. An ESPN RISE First Team All-American, Yu is a member of the U.S. Soccer Under-17 Women's National Team. Through her sophomore year, Yu has recorded 29 goals and 28 assists in her prep soccer career.

Yu has maintained a 4.30 unweighted GPA in the classroom. A silver medal winner for owning the second-highest GPA in her class at Walsh Jesuit during the second semester of her freshman year, she has volunteered locally as a youth soccer mentor and instructor.

"She's athletic as hell, she's fast and she's got an extra gear," said Brian Jankowski, Yu's club coach with Cleveland FC. "These are things that she's worked to develop. She's very aware of her surroundings and she can get herself out of trouble quickly. She's got a shot that's unbelievable. It's like a rocket."

Yu has verbally committed to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Notre Dame beginning in the fall of 2013.

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.

Yu joins recent Gatorade Ohio Girls Soccer Players of the Year two-time winner Elizabeth Burchenal (2009-10 & 2008-09, St. Ursula Academy), and Tahnai Annis (2007-08, Pickerington High School North) 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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