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**CHUGIAK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE ALASKA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 12, 2011) — In its 26<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Kelly Cobb of Chugiak High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Alaska Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Cobb is the second Gatorade Alaska Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Chugiak 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 Cobb as Alaska'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, Cobb 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.), 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 has led the Mustangs to an 8-4-3 record entering this week's regular-season contest with Service High, scheduled for May 14. Cobb scored eight goals and passed for five assists through 15 games. A member of the U.S. Soccer Federation Under-20 Women's National Team Player Pool, she was named a Parade All-American in 2010 and was an All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America in 2009.

Cobb has maintained a 3.71 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of youth soccer programs and a neighborhood health fair.

"She's an athletic phenomenon," said Mark Cascolan, head coach of rival Service High. "She has unbelievable pace, can use both feet and has a knack for scoring goals. She works very hard, and she can get past almost any defender at any level."

Cobb has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Duke 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.

Cobb joins recent Gatorade Alaska Girls Soccer Players of the Year Tricia Stonebraker, (2009-10, Service) and two-time winner Alev Kelter (2007-08 & 2008-09, Chugiak) 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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