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BLUE VALLEY NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE KANSAS GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 12, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Hannah Chadick of Blue Valley Northwest High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Kansas Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Chadick is the fourth Gatorade Kansas Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Blue Valley Northwest 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 Chadick as Kansas' 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, Chadick 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 6-foot senior forward has led the Huskies to a 13-3 record and a berth in the Class 6A Northeast Regional, scheduled to begin May 16. Chadick scored 15 goals and passed for five assists through 16 games. A 2010 Class 6A First Team All-State selection, Chadick is a four-time Eastern Kansas League Scholar-Athlete honoree. She enters the regionals as Blue Valley Northwest's career leader with 29 goals.

Chadick has maintained a 3.51 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally with the Salvation Army, as a youth soccer coach and as an athletic trainer at her school.

"Hannah is an incredible athlete," said Rick Pribyl, head coach of Blue Valley Northwest High. "She's broken our record for goals in a season two years in a row. She's virtually unmarkable right now. We're just having an outstanding season, and Hannah is really stepping up."

Chadick has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Indiana's Ball State 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.

Chadick joins recent Gatorade Kansas Girls Soccer Players of the Year Ashley Catrell, (2009-10, Blue Valley West) and two-time winner Jordan Jackson (2007-08 & 2008-09, Blue Valley West) 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.