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**MANDEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE LOUISIANA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 23, 2012) — In its 27th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Delaney Sheehan of Mandeville High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Louisiana Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Sheehan is the second Gatorade Louisiana Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Mandeville 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 Sheehan as Louisiana'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, Sheehan 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-4 junior forward scored 45 goals and passed for 36 assists this past season, leading the Lady Skippers (27-7) to the Division I state semifinals. An All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, Sheehan has been a First Team All-State honoree each of the last three seasons.

Sheehan has maintained a 4.59 GPA in the classroom. A member of her school's Key Club, she has served in student government and has volunteered locally on behalf of Habitat for Humanity.

"Sheehan is always in the play, always in the right position and always makes tremendous decisions with the ball," said Jeff Dunlap, head coach at Northshore High. "She always puts herself in position to create opportunities for others."

Sheehan will begin her senior year of high school 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 ESPNHS 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.

Sheehan joins recent Gatorade Louisiana Girls Soccer Players of the Year Katherine Cuntz (2010 - 11, St. Mary's Dominican High School), Emily Cancienne, (2009-10, Baton Rouge Magnet), Tricia Johnson (2008-09 St. Scholastica Academy), Kellie Murphy (2007-08, St. Thomas More Catholic), and Hannah Macormic (2006-07, Mandeville) 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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