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**URSULINE ACADEMY STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE TEXAS 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 Jana Jeffrey of Ursuline Academy as its 2011-12 Gatorade Texas Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Jeffrey is the third Gatorade Texas Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Ursuline Academy.

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 Jeffrey as Texas' 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, Jeffrey 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-7 senior midfielder led the Bears to a 22-2 record and the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools Division I state title this past season, the program's 22nd straight state championship. Jeffrey scored 32 goals and passed for 23 assists, including five goals and three assists in Ursuline's four-game postseason run. The 2011-12 TAPPS District 1-5A Player of the Year, Jeffrey is a three-time First Team All-State selection. She concluded her prep soccer career with 54 goals and 40 assists.

Jeffrey has maintained a B average in the classroom. A member of Students Against Destructive Decisions, she has volunteered locally at a retirement home, as a youth tutor and on behalf of Students Reach Out, which provides food for the homeless.

"Jana Jeffrey always sticks out," said Chris Stricker, head coach of Coppell High. "There is something to be said about leading your team to the state title, and she was the best player on that team."

Jeffrey has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at Boston College 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.

Jeffrey joins recent Gatorade Texas Girls Soccer Players of the Year Meghan Streight (2010 - 11, McKinney Boyd High School), Chioma Ubogagu, (2009-10, Coppell), Alina Garciamendez-Rowold (2008-09 Ursuline Academy), Ashley Rape (2007-08, Greenhill School), and Melissa Henderson (2006-07, Berkner) 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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