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**TUALATIN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE OREGON GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 9, 2012) — In its 27<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Anna-Marie Popma of Tualatin High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Oregon Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Popma is the second Gatorade Oregon Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Tualatin 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 Popma as Oregon'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, Popma 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-2 senior forward led the Timberwolves to a 19-0 record and the Class 6A state title this past season. Despite missing six games with a broken collarbone, Popma scored 23 goals and passed for 16 assists, including the lone goal in Tualatin's 1-0 win over Sunset High in the state final. The Oregonian's Class 6A Player of the Year, Popma is a two-time First Team All-State selection and the 2011 Class 6A state championship game MVP. She concluded her prep soccer career with a school-record 100 goals and 55 assists.

Popma has maintained a 3.94 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach and referee and on behalf of a fundraising campaign to benefit cancer research.

"Anna-Marie Popma combines athleticism, attitude and soccer intelligence," said Paul Slover, Tigard High head coach. "She has good speed, she is quick and she makes intelligent runs off the ball. She is the complete package."

Popma has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at Boise State University beginning 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.

Popma joins recent Gatorade Oregon Girls Soccer Players of the Year Maryn Beutler (2010-11, Bend Senior High School), Sarah Bridges, (2009-10, Jesuit), Kendall Johnson (2008-09, Lincoln High School), Courtney Verloo (2007-08 & 2006-07, Tualatin High School), 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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