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**CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE MINNESOTA GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 7, 2013) — In its 28<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Jenna Roering of Centennial High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Minnesota Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Roering is the first Gatorade Minnesota Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Centennial 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 Roering as Minnesota'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, Roering 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 returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-8 senior forward scored 34 goals and passed for 16 assists this past season, leading the Cougars (15-2-2) to the Class AA state quarterfinals. A member of the U.S. Soccer Under-17 Women's National Team player pool, Roering was the 2012 Minnesota State High School Soccer Coaches Association Class AA Miss Soccer and is a three-time MSHSSCA Class AA First Team All-State selection. The 2012 Player of the Year for the Star Tribune and the Pioneer Press, she concluded her prep soccer career with 104 goals and 42 assists.

Roering has maintained a 3.30 GPA in the classroom. A member of the Centennial High yearbook staff, she has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach and as part of American Red Cross blood-donation drives.

"Jenna Roering has such great pace and movement," said Brian Steuter, head coach of Elk River High. "The pace she plays at and her skill on the ball put her at another level that few high school kids can attain."

Roering has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at Santa Clara 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 the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](#), 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.

Two time winner Roering joins Gatorade Minnesota Girls Soccer Players of the Year Taylor Uhl (2010-11, Eden Prairie High School), Kasey Kallman (2009-10, Woodbury), Catie Sessions (2008-09, Woodbury High School), Krista Lundgren (2007-08, Lakeville South High School), and Angie Olson (2006-2007, Eagan) 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 [www.gatorade.com/poy](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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