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MILFORD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 **Morgan Andrews of Milford High School** as its **2011-12 Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Andrews is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Milford 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 Andrews as New Hampshire'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, Andrews 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-9 junior forward scored 31 goals and passed for six assists this past season, leading the Spartans (11-6-1) to the Division II state quarterfinals. The returning Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Soccer Player of the Year, Andrews is captain of the U.S. Soccer Under-17 Women's National Team and is a member of the Under-23 National Team. The 2011 National Soccer Coaches Association of America National Girls Youth Player of the Year for club play and a two-time NSCAA All-American selection, she has 83 goals and 35 assists in three varsity campaigns.

Andrews has maintained a 3.03 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach and mentor in addition to founding and actively promoting the "Kicks for Cans" charity program that involved coaches and players donating their time in exchange for canned goods that are brought to area food banks.

"I have been trying to figure out what makes Morgan Andrews so good for the last 4-5 years," said Dwayne Andreasen, head coach of Souhegan High. "Morgan is a very dedicated and driven young lady on the soccer pitch. When competing against her or just watching her play, you can see her determination in everything she does."

Andrews has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of Notre Dame beginning this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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 Andrews joins Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Soccer Players of the Year Kailey Blain (2009-10 & 2008-09, Merrimack), Kristy Zurmuhlen (2007-08, Fall Mountain Regional High School), and Lindsey Miller (2006-2007, Bishop Guertin) 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/pov.

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