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recognizing excellence in high school athletics*

Gulliver Prep's Spital Named 2010 Florida Dairy Farmers Soccer Player-of-the-Year

GAINESVILLE (April 29) --- Miami Gulliver Preparatory School's Dara Spital has been named the 2010 Florida Dairy Farmers Girls' Soccer Player-of-the-Year. Spital, a senior forward, finished the season with 61 goals and 29 assists leading her team to a 24-1-1 record and a spot in the Class 3A regional finals.

Spital is the 18th winner of the annual award, sponsored by Florida Dairy Farmers, Inc. and the Florida Athletic Coaches Association. A statewide panel of high school soccer coaches and prep media representatives voted on the award honoring the top girls' soccer player for the 2009-10 season.

Spital, who was earlier named the Class 3A Player-of the-Year, finished ahead of Class 6A Player-of-the-Year Catherine Brinkman of Palm Harbor University School. Finishing third was Sam Scalf of Jacksonville Bartram Trail, the Class 4A Player-of-the-Year, followed by Nicole Diperna of Melbourne (Class 5A), and Samantha Perretty of Delray American Heritage (Class 2A).

The Florida Dairy Farmers Sports Awards program exemplifies Dairy Farmers, Inc.'s commitment to the state's youth. While honoring the state's top athletes and coaches in all 27 FHSSA-sanctioned sports for the 18th consecutive year, the program also emphasizes to young people the importance of keeping dairy products a primary part of their diet in their overall nutrition plan.

Dairy Farmers Girls' Soccer Player-of-the-Year Winners

- 1993 – Stacia Masters, Tampa Leto
- 1994 – Robin Cofer, Clearwater Central Catholic
- 1995 – Jill Ford, Orange Park
- 1996 – Gina Foster, St. Thomas Aquinas
- 1997 – Andrea Sellers, Satellite Beach
- 1998 – Alexis Mackenzie, St. Thomas Aquinas
- 1999 – Aly Benitez, Lake Brantley
- 2000 – Nandi Pryce, Lake Howell
- 2001 – Annie Adams, Gulf Breeze
- 2002 – Holly Ryder, Plantation American Heritage
- 2003 – Alison Tradd, Lake Mary
- 2004 – Ashlyn Harris, Satellite
- 2005 – Brianna Schooley, Parkland Douglas
- 2006 – Brianna Schooley, Parkland Douglas
- 2007 – Ella Stephan, Satellite
- 2008 – Kayla Grimsley, Lakeland George Jenkins
- 2009 – Kristen Grubka, Melbourne
- 2010 – Dara Spital, Miami Gulliver Prep