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## Seattle Bank and Sounders FC Announce Premiere Player Community Outreach Program

Honoring outstanding young soccer players and helping their teams.

**SEATTLE, Wash.** – Seattle Bank and Sounders FC announced this week their first Premiere Player of the Month, an inspiring young soccer player from Bellevue named Audrey Thomas. Thomas is the first young soccer player to be honored by the Premiere Player program. The program was developed by Seattle Bank as a way to help support the Puget Sound's youth soccer programs while showcasing the great up-and-coming soccer talent in the community.

"As the official bank of Sounders FC, we felt it was important to really support the local soccer community", says Patrick Patrick, president of Seattle Bank, "and we've been incredibly inspired by the depth of talent, academic excellence, and community consciousness of the nominees we've received. It's truly exciting to be a part of this vibrant sports community".

A sophomore at Issaquah High school, Thomas plays above her age group on Eastside FC Girls 93 Red (U17), and serves as Team Captain. She excels both on and off the field, and has gained the affection and respect of her coaches and teammates through her work ethic, positive attitude, and never-give-up spirit. She's earned WIAA Scholar Athlete recognition for 2009 and 2010, and her High School team voted her offensive MVP in the 2010 season. She was also recognized on the First Team 4A All King Co Team as a sophomore, and gives back to the soccer community by acting as assistant coach to one of the Issaquah Select Girls teams. As part of the award, Seattle Bank has donated \$500 to her team, and Audrey will be honored on the huge video boards in Qwest Field during April Sounders FC matches.

The community is encouraged to nominate other young players on the Seattle Bank website: <u>www.seattlebank.com/sounders</u>.

## About Seattle Bank

Locally owned and managed, Seattle Bank offers a full suite of financial solutions for personal and business banking clients. With five banking centers in the Puget Sound area, its goal is to become Seattle's premiere community bank, continuing its long-standing commitment to the community as an independent, local and entrepreneurial provider of first-class financial services, backed by an interactive and neighborly approach to service. Affiliated companies include Seattle Mortgage Company, one of the state's oldest independent mortgage banking firms. Visit us at <u>www.seattlebank.com</u>.

