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**BRENTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE NEW YORK BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 19, 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 Jeff Medina of Brentwood High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade New York Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Medina is the second Gatorade New York Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Brentwood 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 Medina as New York's best high school boys soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Medina 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 6-foot-2, 165-pound senior defender led the Indians (22-1) to the Class AA state final this past season. An All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, Medina sparked a defense that allowed just eight goals and notched 18 shutouts. He is a two-time All-State honoree and was also chosen as the Long Island Player of the Year.

Medina has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of hurricane relief efforts and youth soccer programs.

"Medina has all the good things you'd want in a player," said Matt Stallone, head coach at Sachem East High. "He's a physical presence in the back and he has a great ability to read the game."

Medina has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Stony Brook University.

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.

Medina joins recent Gatorade New York Boys Soccer Players of the Year Dakota Edwards (2011-12, Sayville High School), Timothy Parker (2010-11, Hicksville High School), Alex Bramall, (2009-10, Newburgh Free Academy), Brian Rogers (2008-09 Bronxville), Will Ogden (2007-08, Byram Hills), and Wilber Bonilla (2006-2007, Brentwood) 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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