

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

**CAESAR RODNEY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE DELAWARE GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 21, 2013) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Alexis Prillaman of Caesar Rodney High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Delaware Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Prillaman is the third Gatorade Delaware Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Caesar Rodney 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 Prillaman as Delaware'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, Prillaman 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 led the Riders to a 14-1 record entering the state postseason tournament's opening round, where they are scheduled to face St. Mark's on May 21. Prillaman scored 34 goals and passed for 14 assists in the regular season. A First Team All-State selection, she was also the Henlopen Conference Player of the Year.

Prillaman has maintained an A average in the classroom. Also a basketball and field hockey standout, she has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics, environmental preservation initiatives and the U.S. Youth Soccer TOPSoccer program.

"Prillaman is an awesome athlete and a very good player," said Keith Short, head coach at Milford High. "She can shoot with either foot, she's comfortable with the ball at her feet and she makes runs into correct spaces."

Prillaman will begin her senior year of high school 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.

Prillaman joins recent Gatorade Delaware Girls Soccer Players of the Year Casey Horney (2011-12, Padua Academy), Caitlin Forte (2010 - 11, Indian River High School), Jazmine Reeves (2009-10 & 2008-09, Caesar Rodney), Morgan Morrow (2007-08, Padua Academy), and Brittny Rhoades (2006-2007, Padua Academy) 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.

###