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**PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE MICHIGAN 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 Madi Lewis of Plymouth High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Michigan Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Lewis is the first Gatorade Michigan Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Plymouth 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 Lewis as Michigan'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, Lewis 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 state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-5 senior forward had led the Wildcats to a 15-0-1 record entering this week's regular-season game against Novi High, scheduled for May 21. Lewis scored 25 goals and passed for 20 assists through 16 games. A member of the U.S. Soccer Under-18 Women's National Team player pool, Lewis was a First Team All-State selection as a junior, her first year playing high school soccer. At the time of her selection, she had tallied 51 goals and 44 assists in her prep soccer career.

Lewis has maintained a 3.86 GPA in the classroom. A member of the Washtenaw County 4-H Club, she has volunteered locally with the Michigan Humane Society.

"Madi Lewis is scary," said Scott Duhl, head coach of Salem High. "She is so fast and dynamic with and without the ball. She will wow you if you watch her. There are few people that do what Madi can do."

Lewis has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of Michigan 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.

Two-time winner Lewis joins Gatorade Michigan Girls Soccer Players of the Year Olivia Brannon (2010 - 11, Athens High School), Annie Steinlage (2009-10, Spring Lake), Olivia Stander (2008-09, Grosse Pointe North) and Laura Heyboer (2007-08 & 2006-2007, Unity Christian), 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.

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