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MONTVERDE ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE FLORIDA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 13, 2014) — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced **Diego Campos of Montverde Academy** as its **2013-14 Gatorade Florida Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Campos is the second Gatorade Florida Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Montverde Academy.

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 Campos as Florida'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, Campos 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-10, 155-pound senior forward scored 36 goals and passed for eight assists this past season, leading the Eagles to a 23-0-1 record and a second straight unofficial national title. A member of the Costa Rican Under-20 Men's National Team, Campos was the 2014 M.A.S.T. Tournament MVP and is ranked as the nation's No. 48 recruit in the Class of 2014 by College Soccer News.

Campos has maintained a B average in the classroom. A Senior Prefect at Montverde, he has volunteered locally with the Boys and Girls Club, the Special Olympics and as a peer tutor.

"Diego Campos is one of the most complete soccer players I have ever seen," said Diego Cardona, head coach of North Broward Prep. "He has great technique and tremendous skills to beat opponents."

Campos has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at Clemson University 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.

Campos joins recent Gatorade Florida Boys Soccer Players of the Year Thales Moreno (2012-13, Montverde Academy), Brian James (2011-12, American Heritage School of Boca/Delray), Verner Valimaa (2010 - 11, American Heritage School of Boca/Delray), Max Rockwell (2009-10, JW Mitchell), Hasani Sinclair (2008-09 American Heritage School of Boca/Delray), Shawn Barry (2007-08, American Heritage School), and Eugene Starikov (2006-2007, Palm Harbor University) 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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