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COPPELL HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE TEXAS 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 Chris Madden of Coppell High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Texas Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Madden is the first Gatorade Texas Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Coppell 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 Madden as Texas'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, Madden 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-11, 150-pound senior forward scored 10 goals and passed for 13 assists this past season, leading the Cowboys (22-2-2) to the Class 5A state championship game. A two-time District 5-5A MVP, he was the 2013 Class 5A State Final MVP after Coppell won the state championship. A two-time Class 5A First Team All-State selection, he concluded his prep soccer career with 35 goals and 28 assists.

Madden has maintained an A average in the classroom. A peer tutor at Coppell High, he has volunteered locally as a youth mentor, a soccer coach and referee and as part of annual Thanksgiving and Christmas drives for the needy in association with his church youth group.

"Chris Madden is a dynamic attacking player that has the ability to be a difference-maker," said John Gall, head coach of Marcus High. "He has a great ability to beat players and create something out of nothing."

Madden will attend Trinity College in San Antonio where he will play soccer 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.

Madden joins recent Gatorade Texas Boys Soccer Players of the Year Kayode George (2012-13, Alief Elsik High School), Tony Santibanez (2011-12, Plano Senior High School), Aaron Simmons (2010 – 11, Mansfield High School), Zach Barnes (2009-10, Marcus), Dillon Powers (2008-09 Plano Senior High School), Sam Garza (2007-08, Marcus), and Corben Bone (2006-2007, Plano) 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.