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**CATHOLIC MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE WISCONSIN GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 20, 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 Emily Cervantes of Catholic Memorial High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Cervantes is the third Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Catholic Memorial 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 Cervantes as Wisconsin'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, Cervantes 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 sophomore forward has led the Crusaders to a 14-1 record entering this week's regular-season contest with Kenosha Tremper, scheduled for May 17. Cervantes scored 32 goals and passed for 15 assists through 15 games. An All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, she is a First Team All-State honoree and was the Wisconsin Coaches Association Player of the Year in 2013.

Cervantes has maintained a B average in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the U.S. Youth Soccer TOPSoccer program serving young athletes with disabilities.

"I've yet to see her in a game where she didn't dominate," said Kayla Miller, head coach at Milton High. "What she's able to create for herself and for her teammates is amazing. She has tremendous speed and a soccer IQ that is far beyond her years."

Cervantes will begin her junior 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.

Cervantes joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Soccer Players of the Year Josee Stiever (2012-13 & 2011-12, Cedarburg High School), Morgan LaPlant (2010 - 11, La Follette High School), Alex Melin (2009-10, Verona Area), Taylor Madigan (2008-09, Waunakee), Laurel Ragalie (2007-08, Bradford), and Jennifer Baumann (2006-2007, Catholic Memorial) 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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