

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

**RIVERA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE TEXAS BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 11, 2015) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Isidro Martinez of Rivera High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Texas Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Martinez is the first Gatorade Texas Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Rivera 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 Martinez 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, Martinez 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-8, 140-pound senior midfielder and forward led the Raiders to a 28-0 record and the Class 6A state championship this past season. Martinez scored 32 goals and passed for 35 assists, including the game-winning goal in the state title game to earn MVP honors. A two-time District Most Valuable Player selection, he concluded his prep soccer career with 124 goals and 137 assists.

Martinez has maintained an A average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on multiple community-service initiatives through the National Honor Society and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

"Isidro was always willing to sacrifice for the better of the team," said Reyes Prado, head coach of Hanna High. "Isidro was not always creating problems for opponents by scoring, but I believe he was more dangerous serving and setting up his teammates."

Martinez has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley beginning 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.

Martinez joins recent Gatorade Texas Boys Soccer Players of the Year Chris Madden (2013-14, Coppell High School), 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 High School), Dillon Powers (2008-09, Plano Senior High School), Sam Garza (2007-08, Marcus High School), and Corben Bone (2006-07, Plano High School) 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.

###