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**INDIAN RIVER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE DELAWARE GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 17, 2016) — In its 31st year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Brooke Beam of Indian River High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Delaware Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Beam is the second Gatorade Delaware Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Indian River 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 Beam as Delaware'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, Beam 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-4 senior midfielder had led the Indians to a 12-1 record at the time of her selection. Beam scored 25 goals and passed for 15 assists through 13 games. A First Team All-State selection, she is also a three-time All-Conference honoree and has played for the Region I Olympic Development team.

Beam has maintained a 4.52 GPA in the classroom. Also a talented artist and a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, she has volunteered locally on behalf of a community kitchen and the U.S. Youth Soccer TOPSoccer program serving young athletes with disabilities.

"Beam doesn't just impact the game, she controls the game," said Chase Humphrey, head coach at Delmar High. "She sees the field well, she can distribute, she can take on defenders and she can find the back of the net with ease."

Beam has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Richmond 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.

Beam joins recent Gatorade Delaware Girls Soccer Players of the Year Karlina Panella (2014-15, Padua Academy), Alexis Prillaman (2013-14 & 2012-13, Caesar Rodney High School), Casey Horney (2011-12, Padua Academy), Caitlin Forte (2010-11, Indian River High School), Jazmine Reeves (2009-10 & 2008-09, Caesar Rodney High School), Morgan Morrow (2007-08, Padua Academy), and Brittney Rhoades (2006-07, Padua Academy) 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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