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NEW TRIER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE ILLINOIS 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 Kelly Maday of New Trier High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Illinois Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Maday is the second Gatorade Illinois Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from New Trier 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 Maday as Illinois'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, Maday 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-6 senior forward has led the Trevians to a 20-3-1 record entering the Class 3A New Trier Regional tournament semifinals against Maine East High, scheduled for May 17. Maday has scored 13 goals and passed for 13 assists despite missing eight games with an ankle injury. A two-time Class 3A All-State selection, Maday and the Trevians are seeking their third straight Class 3A state championship. She enters the regional semis with 65 goals and 65 assists in her prep soccer career.

Maday has maintained a weighted 3.53 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally at a homeless shelter and as a youth soccer coach. She also serves as a junior board member of Misericordia, a home for people with developmental and physical disabilities in Chicago.

"Kelly Maday is an extremely talented player and you always need to know where she is on the field," said Brett Clish, head coach of Niles West High. "She is dangerous because of her speed and touch with the ball. If she has a slight opening, she will take advantage of it."

Maday has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of Illinois beginning this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Maday joins recent Gatorade Illinois Girls Soccer Players of the Year Jenna Szczesny (2014-15 & 2013-14, Barrington High School), Zoe Swift (2012-13, Naperville North High School), Courtney Raetzman (2011-12, Conant High School), Megan Oyster (2010-11, Neuqua Valley High School), Vanessa DiBernardo (2009-10, Waubonsie Valley High School), Rachel Quon (2008-09, Lake Forest High School), Bri Rodriguez (2007-08, Waubonsie Valley High School), and Tessa Gavilsky (2006-07, Granite City 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.

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