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**SACHSE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE TEXAS GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 17, 2016) — In its 31<sup>st</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Cyera Hintzen of Sachse High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Texas Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Hintzen is the second Gatorade Texas Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Sachse 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 Hintzen as Texas'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, Hintzen 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 scored 22 goals and passed for nine assists this past season, leading the Mustangs (21-1-1) to the second round of the Class 6A, Region 2 tournament. A two-time District 11-6A MVP, Hintzen missed four games during the regular season to participate in a pair of training camps with the U.S. Soccer Under-19 Women's National Team. She concluded her prep soccer career with a school-record 108 goals along with 48 assists.

Hintzen has maintained an A-minus average in the classroom. She has volunteered locally with the Salvation Army and as a youth soccer coach in addition to donating her time on behalf of multiple community-service initiatives through her church youth group.

"Cyera Hintzen has an amazing shot, can turn on a dime, shoot with either foot, and has amazing speed to go with it," said Eric Ramirez, head coach of Hebron High. "She is also an extremely smart player. You can see it in the runs she makes and her ability to be selfish when she needs to be and unselfish when not. She just does what it takes to win."

Hintzen has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of Texas 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.

Hintzen joins recent Gatorade Texas Girls Soccer Players of the Year Jordie Harr (2014-15 & 2013-14, Sachse High School), Katie Martin (2012-13, Highland Park High School), Jana Jeffrey (2011-12, Ursuline Academy), Meghan Streight (2010-11, McKinney Boyd High School), Chioma Ubogagu (2009-10, Coppell High School), Alina Garciamendez-Rowold (2008-09, Ursuline Academy), Ashley Rape (2007-08, Greenhill School), and Melissa Henderson (2006-07, Berkner 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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