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**CONCORD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 6, 2018) — In its 33rd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Taylor Silverstein of Concord High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Silverstein is the second Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Concord 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 Silverstein as New Hampshire'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 June, Silverstein joins an elite alumni association of past state soccer award-winners, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel HS, Calif.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, 2002-03, East Brunswick HS, N.J.), Matt Besler (2004-04, Blue Valley West HS, Kans.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire HS, Mass.), Mallory Pugh (2014-15, Mountain Vista HS, Colo.).

The 5-foot-6, 145-pound senior midfielder scored 17 goals and passed for four assists this past season, leading the Crimson Tide (15-4-1) to the Division 1 state championship. An All-American selection by United Soccer Coaches, Silverstein is a two-time First Team All-State honoree and was named Concord Monitor Player of the Year.

A member of his school's Leadership Council, Silverstein has volunteered locally on behalf of a Unified Soccer program, which empowers individuals with and without intellectual disabilities to engage through the power of sports. "Taylor Silverstein is a tremendous talent, a real competitor and a very sportsmanlike player," said Kerry Boles, head coach at Pinkerton Academy. "He's the chief reason that Concord won a state championship this year."

Silverstein has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Saint Anselm College 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 Player of the Year Selection Committee, 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.

Silverstein joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Soccer Players of the Year Jacob Gould (2016-17, Exeter High School), Asa Berolzheimer (2015-16, Hanover High School), Kyle Hicks (2014-15, Pinkerton Academy), Daniel Hazlett (2013-14, Hanover High School), Erik Martel (2012-13, Bedford High School), Brian Hart (2011-12, Phillips Exeter Academy), Eric Jayne (2010-11, Hanover High School), Josh Vlasich (2009-10, Exeter High School), Kenny Kolbeck (2008-09, Pinkerton Academy), Brad Hilton (2007-08, Merrimack), and Robbie McLarney (2006-07, Londonderry) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Silverstein will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

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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