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**MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE WISCONSIN BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 22, 2012) — In its 27th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Patrick Hodan of Marquette University High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Hodan is the eight Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Marquette University 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 Hodan as Wisconsin'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, Hodan 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-9 senior forward scored 45 goals and passed for 10 assists this past season, leading the Hilltoppers (24-0-1) to their second consecutive state title and a No. 3 ranking in the ESPNHS Fab 50. An All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, Hodan was also named the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Player of the Year, the Greater Metro Conference Player of the Year and the Wisconsin Soccer Coaches Player of the Year. He set school records for most goals in a single season and career, and broke his own state postseason record with eight goals in this year's state tournament.

Hodan has maintained 4.01 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and the St. Vincent de Paul Society's meal program for the needy.

"Hodan might be the most dangerous player I've seen in 30 years," said Ken Burghy, head coach of Middleton High. "His ability to slip through tiny spaces with incredible quickness, blow by defenders in his first two steps and do it all while keeping the ball attached to his foot is phenomenal."

Hodan has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Notre Dame 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 ESPNHS and the Gatorade high school sports leadership team, 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.

Hodan joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Soccer Players of the Year Alex Megna (2010 - 11, Marquette University High School), David Caban, (2009-10, Tremper High School), Robbie Boyd (2008-09 Marquette University HS), Stuart Grable (2007-08, Neenah) and Eric Meyer (2006-2007, James Madison Memorial) 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 playeroftheyear.gatorade.com.

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