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**ALTA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE UTAH GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 7, 2013) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Bizzy Phillips of Alta High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Utah Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Phillips is the fourth Gatorade Utah Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Alta 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 Phillips as Utah'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, Phillips 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 junior midfielder scored 22 goals and passed for 18 assists this past season, leading the Hawks (18-1-1) to the Class 5A state title game. The Salt Lake Tribune and Deseret News Class 5A MVP, Phillips is a two-time First Team All-State honoree and an All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. She concluded her junior year with 35 goals and 40 assists in her prep soccer career.

Phillips has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as part of fundraising campaigns to benefit diabetes and cancer research and as a youth soccer coach.

"Bizzy Phillips is a very dangerous player because of her speed and top-notch fitness coupled with strong foot skills in tight spaces," said Mark Stoker, head coach of Brighton High. "I think she is the spark for her team by way of energy on the field, positive attitude and vision to get other players involved."

Phillips has made a verbal commitment to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at Brigham Young University beginning in the fall of 2014.

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.

Phillips joins recent Gatorade Utah Girls Soccer Players of the Year Michele Murphy (2011-12, Alta High School), Stephanie Verdoia (2010 - 11, Brighton High School), Jaiden Thornock (2009-10, Bonneville), Kealia Ohai (2008-09 & 2007-08, Alta High School), and Megan Ohai (2006-2007, Alta) 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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