

Contact: Adam Woullard (312-729-3627)

**SALESIANUM SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE DELAWARE BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 19, 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 Hunter Dann of Salesianum School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Delaware Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Dann is the seventh Gatorade Delaware Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Salesianum 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 Dann as Delaware'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, Dann 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 6-foot-1, 170-pound senior defender led the Sallies to a 17-1 record and the state championship this past season. Dann scored nine goals, passed for six assists and anchored a defense that allowed just four goals, none of which were recorded during Salesianum's four-game postseason run to the title. An All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, he was the 2012 Delaware Soccer Coaches Association Player of the Year.

Dann has maintained a 3.80 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at a food bank and with the Salesianum Blue-Gold Club, which raises money for the Delaware Foundation Reaching Citizens with Cognitive DisABILITIES.

"Hunter did so many things for his team this season," said Bob Bussiere, head coach of Archmere Academy. "Although he was a central defender, he played like a central midfielder. He was a rock as a defender and was a dangerous player going forward."

Dann remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Dann joins recent Gatorade Delaware Boys Soccer Players of the Year Matt Hogsten (2011-12, Dover High School), Nick Dirienzo (2010-11, Charter School of Wilmington), Andrew O'Malley, (2009-10 & 2008-09, Salesianum School), Matt Margiotta (2007-08, Salesianum School), and Matt Marcin (2006-2007, Charter School of Wilmington) 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.

###