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Contact: Adam Woullard (312-729-3627)

GONZAGA COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 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 Nicko Corriveau of Gonzaga College High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Corriveau is the seventh Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Gonzaga College 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 Corriveau as District of Columbia'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, Corriveau 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-11, 160-pound senior forward and midfielder led the Eagles to an 18-1-1 record and the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference tournament championship. Corriveau scored 11 goals and passed for 13 assists. The 2012 Washington Post All-Met Player of the Year, he is a three-time First Team All-WCAC selection and the No. 29-rated recruit in the Class of 2013 by TopDrawerSoccer.com. He concluded his prep soccer career with 40 goals and 29 assists.

Corriveau has maintained a weighted 4.15 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at the Interfaith Clothing Center in Rockville, Md., and as a youth soccer coach.

"Nicko Corriveau is so creative and has that something extra special about him," said Chris Jennings, head coach of Bishop O'Connell High. "His vision in the final third is what sets him apart. When Gonzaga was clicking on all cylinders, it was due to that creativity and spark in the attack."

Corriveau has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of Virginia this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Corriveau joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Soccer Players of the Year Ian Harkes (2011–12, Gonzaga College High School), Joey Wilkins (2010–11, Gonzaga College High School), Ben Norton, (2009–10, Sidwell Friends School), Chris Perez (2008–09 Gonzaga College), Yoni Berhanu (2007–08, Sidwell Friends School), and Kieran Rice (2006–2007, Gonzaga College) 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.