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POST FALLS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE IDAHO 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 Timmy Mueller of Post Falls High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Mueller is the first Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Post Falls 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 Mueller as Idaho'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, Mueller 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-3, 190-pound junior forward led the Broncos to a 17-1-1 record and the Class 5A state championship this past season. Mueller scored 30 goals and passed for seven assists, including two goals each in the state semifinals and state final. The Idaho Soccer Coaches Association Player of the Year and the state's leading scorer in 2012, he concluded his junior year with 74 goals and 19 assists in his prep soccer career.

Mueller has maintained a 3.94 GPA in the classroom. A long-time member of the Boy Scouts of America, he has volunteered locally on behalf of neighborhood beautification projects and as a youth soccer and basketball coach.

"Timmy Mueller was phenomenal, that is the only way I can describe him," said David Kronemann, head coach of Lewiston High. "Not only was his athletic ability leaps and bounds ahead of my team, he was a student of the game. He knew where to be on the field to give himself and his team the best chance possible to score, move the ball and even defend."

Mueller will begin his senior year of high school 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 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.

Mueller joins recent Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Players of the Year Bryson Pavel (2011–12, Boise High School), Michael Soderlund (2010–11, Timberline High School), Justin Hill, (2009–10 & 2008–09, Boise High School), Nick Sykes (2007–08, Mountain View), and Mike McLeod (2006–2007, Boise) 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.