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MCDONOGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE MARYLAND 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 George Campbell of McDonogh School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Maryland Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Campbell is the fourth Gatorade Maryland Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from McDonogh 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 Campbell as Maryland'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, Campbell 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-8, 150-pound junior midfielder scored nine goals and passed for 16 assists this past season, leading the Eagles (13-4-2) to the Independent Athletic Association of Maryland Conference A Tournament quarterfinals. An All-South Region selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, Campbell was also a First Team All-State honoree by the Maryland Association of Coaches of Soccer. He concluded his junior year with 22 goals and 36 assists in his prep soccer career.

Campbell has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at a homeless shelter and as a youth soccer coach.

"George Campbell is a technical player and is very dangerous going forward," said Jon Seal, head coach of the Gilman School. "He can take three guys on the dribble and shoot from distance. He did so much for McDonogh this past season."

Campbell 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.

Campbell joins recent Gatorade Maryland Boys Soccer Players of the Year Andrew Harris (2011–12, Gilman School), Cody Albrecht (2010–11, DeMatha Catholic High School), Marquez Fernandez, (2009–10 & 2008–09, McDonogh School), Chris Agorsor (2007–08, McDonogh School), and B.J. Quigley (2006–2007, Archbishop Curley) 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.