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**JUNEAU-DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE ALASKA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 14, 2013) — In its 28<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Jackson Lehnhart of Juneau-Douglas High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Alaska Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Lehnhart is the fifth Gatorade Alaska Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Juneau-Douglas 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 Lehnhart as Alaska'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, Lehnhart 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-10, 165-pound senior forward and midfielder has scored 25 goals and passed for 18 assists this season, leading the Crimson Bears to a 14-2-2 record entering this week's regular season game with Thunder Mountain, scheduled for May 16. Lehnhart was a First Team All-State selection in 2012 and earned MVP honors in the 2011 Class 4A state championship game.

Lehnhart has maintained a 3.95 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of a homeless shelter, community clean-up initiatives and youth soccer programs.

"Jackson Lehnhart is a complete player," said Dan Rufner, head coach at Service High. "He plays with good pace and he's all over the field. He can score and his defense is great too."

Lehnhart will attend Amherst College this fall, where he will play soccer.

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.

Lehnhart joins recent Gatorade Alaska Boys Soccer Players of the Year Michael Sedor (2011-12, Dimond High School), Kirby Hutto (2010-11, South Anchorage High School), Jon Hall (2009-10, South Anchorage), Blaine Carver (2008-09, Soldotna High School), Colin Flynn (2007-08, Juneau-Douglas), and Spencer Augustin (2006-07, South) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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