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**PINNACLE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE ARIZONA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 14, 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 Mason Robertson of Pinnacle High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Arizona Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Robertson is the third Gatorade Arizona Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Pinnacle 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 Robertson as Arizona'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, Robertson 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-2, 180-pound senior forward scored 33 goals and passed for 14 assists this past season, leading the Pioneers (18-3-2) to the Division I state tournament. The Arizona Republic All-Northeast Valley Player of the Year, Robertson was a First Team All-State selection. He concluded his prep soccer career with 52 goals and 26 assists.

Robertson has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as a teacher's aide at an elementary school and helped sponsor a Ugandan child to pay for his education through Educate Uganda.

"Mason can score, create assists and when he plays as a center back he will dominate games," said Brian O'Donnell, Robertson's club coach with Sereno SC. "He is a player that could move straight into MLS if he chose that path."

Robertson has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of Washington 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.

Robertson joins recent Gatorade Arizona Boys Soccer Players of the Year Danny Arrubla (2011-12, Hamilton High School), Riggs Lennon (2010-11, Brophy College Preparatory), George Malki (2009-10, Pinnacle), Nick Ayers (2008-09, Brophy College Preparatory), Temi Molinar (2007-08, Brophy College Preparatory), and Kyle Ciliento (2006-07, Pinnacle) 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.

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