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ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE IDAHO GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (February 6, 2014) — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Raimee Sherle of Rocky Mountain High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Idaho Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Sherle is the first Gatorade Idaho Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Rocky Mountain 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 Sherle as Idaho's best high school girls soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Sherle 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-2 sophomore forward scored 34 goals and passed for 11 assists this past season, leading the Grizzlies (16-3-2) to the Class 5A state semifinals. Sherle was the 2013 Idaho High School Soccer Coaches Association Player of the Year and an Idaho Press Tribune First Team All-State selection. She scored in 18 of 21 games and recorded 11 multigoal games, including three hat tricks.

Sherle has maintained a 3.43 GPA in the classroom. The class president of Student Council as a freshman and sophomore, she has volunteered locally with an anti-bullying program and in association with her church youth group.

"Raimee Sherle is a scoring machine," said Ross Schultz, head coach of Timberline High. "Without her on the field they had no real scoring threat. She has great speed and can strike with either foot. She is small but doesn't play small."

Sherle will begin her junior 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.

Sherle joins recent Gatorade Idaho Girls Soccer Players of the Year Kelcie Hedge (2012-13, Post Falls High School), Brooke Heidemann (2011-12, Rocky Mountain High School), Sofia Huerta (2010-11 & 2009-10, Centennial High School), Miah Mollay (2008-09, Boise High School), Halley Kreminski (2007-08, Eagle High School), and Brandy Hickcox (2006-07, Capital) 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.