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## TATES CREEK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE KENTUCKY GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (February 6, 2014) — In its 29<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 Mallory Eubanks of Tates Creek High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Kentucky Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Eubanks is the first Gatorade Kentucky Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Tates Creek 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 Eubanks as Kentucky'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, Eubanks 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-4 senior forward scored 37 goals and passed for 22 assists this past season, leading the Commodores (21-5-3) to the state semifinals. The 2013 Kentucky High School Soccer Association Miss Soccer winner, Eubanks was an All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America and played in the 2013 High School All-American Game.

Eubanks has maintained a weighted 4.39 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally with Billy's Place, which assists foster children. She's also fundraised for an orphanage in Zambia in addition to donating her time as a youth basketball coach.

"Mallory's finishing capabilities were what got her the most attention, but it's her technical ability and decision-making that set her apart from other players," said Bo Lankster, head coach of Tates Creek High. "She impacts the game more than any other player I've ever coached or coached against."

Eubanks has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at Mississippi State University beginning 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.

Eubanks joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Girls Soccer Players of the Year Libby Leedom (2012-13 & 2011-12), St. Henry District High School), Arin Gilliland (2010-11, West Jessamine High School), Jackie Hafele (2009-10, Sacred Heart Academy), Nikki Hafele (2008-09, Sacred Heart Academy), Jenna Goblirsch (2007-08, Elizabethtown High School), and Sydney Hiance (2006-07, Highlands) 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 <a href="https://www.gatorade.com/poy.">www.gatorade.com/poy.</a>