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PINE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE COLORADO BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (February 13, 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 David Meyer of Pine Creek High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Colorado Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Meyer is the first Gatorade Colorado Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Pine 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 Meyer as Colorado'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, Meyer 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-4, 200-pound senior goalkeeper led the Eagles to a 17-1-2 record and the Class 5A state championship this past season. Meyer allowed four goals and recorded 15 shutouts. He did not allow a goal in four postseason games and had back-to-back, seven-save efforts in net in the state semifinals and state final, both 1-0 Pine Creek victories. An All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, he was the Denver Post Colorado Prep Boys Soccer Player of the Year and a Class 5A First Team All-State honoree.

Meyer has maintained a 3.5 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally with a community outreach program for Latino youth, as a peer tutor and as a youth soccer coach.

"David Meyer was a big reason for Pine Creek's success," said Chelo Curi, head coach of Cherry Creek High. "He came up with some big saves in numerous games and was a solid distributor of the ball. He took the team on his back and did not let them down."

Meyer remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Meyer joins recent Gatorade Colorado Boys Soccer Players of the Year Miguel Jaime (2012-13, Cherry Creek High School), Shane O'Neill (2011-12, Fairview High School), Tidiane Dia (2010-11, Mountain Vista High School), Cole Chapleski, (2009-10, Broomfield High School), Alex Tarnoczi (2008-09, Rock Canyon), Morgan Sacco (2007-08, Greeley Central), and Miguel Rosales (2006-2007, Smoky Hill) 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.