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**TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE KENTUCKY 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 Sam Stockton of Trinity High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Kentucky Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Stockton is the sixth Gatorade Kentucky Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Trinity 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 Stockton as Kentucky'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, Stockton 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-5, 145-pound junior midfielder scored 16 goals and passed for 15 assists this past season, leading the Shamrocks (21-3-1) to the state championship game. An All-Region IV selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, Stockton was a First Team All-State honoree and a member of the U.S. Youth Soccer Region II Olympic Development Program team. He concluded his junior year with career totals of 27 goals and 66 assists.

Stockton has maintained an A average in the classroom. A devoted member of his church community, Stockton has volunteered locally with the Kosair Children's Hospital Foundation and as a member of the Trinity Ambassador program.

"The best kid was Sam Stockton," said Rob Zoeller, head coach at Ballard High. "He is a very good soccer player and was a key piece for Trinity. I love watching him play."

Stockton will begin his senior 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.

Stockton joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Boys Soccer Players of the Year Chris Hubbard (2012-13, Trinity High School), Neil Henley (2011-12, St. Xavier High School), Oliver Brown (2010-11, St. Xavier High School), Lepe Seetane, (2009-10, Trinity High School), Kevin Bick (2008-09 & 2007-08, St. Xavier), and Josh Lipka (2006-2007, Lexington Catholic) 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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