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MCDONOGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE MARYLAND 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 George Campbell of McDonogh School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Maryland Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Campbell is the fifth Gatorade Maryland Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from McDonogh 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 Campbell as Maryland'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, Campbell 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 returning Gatorade State Player of the Year, the 5-foot-9, 155-pound senior midfielder led the Eagles to a 21-0-1 record and the Independent Athletic Association of Maryland Conference A Tournament championship. Campbell scored 23 goals and passed for 15 assists. The National Soccer Coaches Association of America's 2013 National High School Player of the Year, Campbell was the Baltimore Sun Metro Player of the Year and a two-time Maryland Association of Soccer Coaches First Team All-State selection. He concluded his prep soccer career with 46 goals and 48 assists.

Campbell has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at a homeless shelter and as a youth soccer coach and mentor.

"George was the engine in the middle of the field both offensively and defensively," said Lee Tschantret, head coach of Loyola Blakefield High. "He was great in 1v1 situations and was also excellent in recognizing the double team and playing the correct pass, which led to many of the goals his teammates scored."

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

Two-time winner Campbell joins Gatorade Maryland Boys Soccer Players of the Year Andrew Harris (2011–12, Gilman School), Cody Albrecht (2010–11, DeMatha Catholic High School), Marquez Fernandez, (2009–10 & 2008–09, McDonogh School), Chris Agorsor (2007–08, McDonogh School), and B.J. Quigley (2006–2007, Archbishop Curley) 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.