

**Contact: Jason Belenke (312-729-3631)**

**SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE MICHIGAN BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 13, 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 Alec Lasinski of Skyline High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Michigan Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Lasinski is the first Gatorade Michigan Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Skyline 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 Lasinski as Michigan'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, Lasinski 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-10 junior forward led the Eagles to a 20-1-5 record and the Division I state championship this past season. Lasinski scored 32 goals and passed for eight assists, including five goals and three assists in Skyline's seven-game postseason run to the state title. The 2013 Michigan Soccer Coaches Association's Mr. Soccer, Lasinski was an All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. He concluded his junior year with career totals of 50 goals and 27 assists.

Lasinski has maintained a 3.4 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at a homeless shelter and as a youth soccer coach. He has also donated his time helping to build a playground at a park.

"Alec Lasinski is a great player," said David Saylor, head coach of Grandville High. "He scored big goals in big games and did well all year against a tough schedule. Skyline was beset with some injuries through the middle of the season and that kid never stopped scoring."

Lasinski 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.

Lasinski joins recent Gatorade Michigan Boys Soccer Players of the Year Dewey Lewis (2012-13, Rockford High School), Zach Carroll (2011-12, Grand Blanc High School), Dzenan Catic (2010-11, East Kentwood High School), Soony Saad, (2009-10, Dearborn High School), Kevin Cope (2008-09, Salem), and Casey Townsend (2007-08 & 2006-2007, Traverse City West) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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