## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

## HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 Daniel Hazlett of Hanover High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Hazlett is the fourth Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Hanover 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 Hazlett as New Hampshire'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, Hazlett 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-7, 155-pound senior forward scored 16 goals and passed for seven assists this past season, leading the Marauders (19-0-1) to the Division 1 state championship. An All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, Hazlett was also named First Team All-State.

Hazlett has maintained a 3.41 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the CROP Hunger Walk and youth soccer programs.

"Hazlett is very difficult to defend," said Scott Dunlop, head coach at Concord High. "He has great speed on the ball and his first touch is outstanding. It takes a collective team effort to contain him."

Hazlett will attend Dartmouth College this fall, where he will play soccer.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Hazlett joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Soccer Players of the Year Erik Martel (2012-13, Bedford High School), Brian Hart (2011-12, Phillips Exeter Academy), Eric Jayne (2010-11, Hanover High School), Josh Vlasich, (2009-10, Exeter High School), Kenny Kolbeck (2008-09, Pinkerton Academy), Brad Hilton (2007-08, Merrimack), and Robbie McLarney (2006-2007, Londonderry) 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.