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**CENTURY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA 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 Brad Kelly of Century High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade North Dakota Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Kelly is the third Gatorade North Dakota Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Century 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 Kelly as North Dakota'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, Kelly 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-9, 140-pound senior midfielder scored three goals and passed for eight assists this past season, leading the Patriots (13-2-4) to their third consecutive state championship. An All-State selection, Kelly also helped solidify a defense that allowed just seven goals all season.

Kelly has maintained a perfect 4.0 GPA in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade Award's broad criteria. Also a hockey standout, he has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and youth sports programs.

"I don't think there was a better player technically than Brad Kelly," said Cody Saunders, head coach at Minot High. "He sets everybody else up. His first touch is phenomenal and he pretty much ran their midfield."

Kelly has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the College of Mary 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.

Kelly joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Boys Soccer Players of the Year Jacob Weiler (2012-13 & 2011-12, Fargo South High School), Braden Schmid (2010-11, West Fargo High School), Mike Frenzel, (2009-10, Century High School), Matt Glogoza (2008-09, Shanley), Alex Paulson (2007-08, Century), and Isak Tengesdal (2006-2007, Minot) 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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