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**DUNN SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE CALIFORNIA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 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 **Abu Danladi of Dunn School** as its **2013-14 Gatorade California Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Danladi is the first Gatorade California Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Dunn 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 Danladi as California'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, Danladi 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, 175-pound senior forward scored 25 goals and passed for 15 assists this past season, leading the Earwigs (9-3-2) to the Southern Section Division VI Tournament. A three-time team MVP, Danladi is a two-time Southern Section Division VI First Team selection and is ranked as the nation's No. 22 recruit in the Class of 2014 by College Soccer News.

Danladi has maintained a 3.08 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at a nature reserve, as a youth soccer coach and as a summer camp counselor.

"Abu Danladi is a beast. He's big, strong, fast and highly skilled," said Pete Mack, head coach of the Cate School. "Every time he touched the ball, my heart pounded faster."

Danladi has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at UCLA 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.

Danladi joins recent Gatorade California Boys Soccer Players of the Year Cristian Roldan (2012-13, El Rancho High School), Ema Boateng (2011-12, Cate School), Seth Casiple (2010 - 11, Rocklin High School), Reed Williams (2009-10, Corona del Mar), Adam Jahn (2008-09 & 2007-08, Jesuit High School), and Jalil Anibaba (2006-2007, Davis Senior) 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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