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OMAHA SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE NEBRASKA 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 Michael Jaime of Omaha South High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Nebraska Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Jaime is the first Gatorade Nebraska Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Omaha South 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 Jaime as Nebraska'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, Jaime 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-8, 145-pound senior defender and midfielder has led the Packers to a 7-11 record entering the Class A State Tournament quarterfinals against Creighton Prep, scheduled for May 15. Jaime has scored 13 goals and passed for six assists through 18 games for Omaha South, which had to forfeit seven regular-season victories for self-reporting the use of an ineligible player. The captain of the 2013 Lincoln Journal Star Super State team, Jaime tallied 30 goals and 13 assists a year ago when the Packers won the Class A state title.

Jaime has maintained a 3.0 GPA in the classroom. A spokesperson on Omaha's Spanish-language radio stations to promote soccer, he has volunteered locally as a youth mentor and child-care provider. He has also donated his time to multiple community service initiatives in association with his church.

"Michael plays a variety of positions and allows them to make game-by-game and in-game adjustments very easily," said Bill Cunningham, head coach of Millard North High. "Besides his skill level, he is also a very savvy player and is calm and unrattled at all places in the box."

Jaime has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of Nebraska-Omaha 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.

Jaime joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Boys Soccer Players of the Year Michael Kluver (2012-13, Skutt Catholic High School), Gabe Garbin (2011-12, Lincoln East High School), Jake Linden (2010 - 11, Creighton Prep), Taylor Reeves (2009-10, Creighton Preparatory School), Michael Burke (2008-09 Skutt Catholic High School), Seth Neben (2007-08, Lincoln Southwest), and Kyle Deremer (2006-2007, Millard North) 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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