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**ROCK CANYON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE COLORADO GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 20, 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 Kaycie Young of Rock Canyon High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Colorado Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Young is the first Gatorade Colorado Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Rock Canyon 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 Young as Colorado's best high school girls soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Young 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 senior midfielder scored 13 goals and passed for nine assists this past season, leading the Jaguars (16-2) to the Class 5A state quarterfinals. A 2013 First Team All-State selection, Young is a two-time First Team All-Continental League honoree. She concluded her prep soccer career with 45 goals.

Young has maintained a 3.83 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach and has served as an elementary school teacher's aide. She's also donated her time at a treatment center for underprivileged and abused children.

"Kaycie has a commanding presence on the field that is intimidating to opposing teams but yet calming to her teammates," said Danny Main, head coach of Highlands Ranch High. "She controls the tempo of the game very well, and her movement off the ball is precise to make easy passing lanes for her teammates."

Young has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of Portland 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.

Young joins recent Gatorade Colorado Girls Soccer Players of the Year Gabbi Miranda (2012-13, Mountain Vista High School), Janine Beckie (2011-12, Valor Christian High School), Annie Kunz (2010 - 11 & 2009 -10, Wheat Ridge High School), Olivia Wagner (2008-09, Dawson School), Beth West (2007-08, Grandview), and Brittney MacDonald (2006-2007, J.K. Mullen) 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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