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SHANLEY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA 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 Anna Reinholz of Shanley High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade North Dakota Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Reinholz is the second Gatorade North Dakota Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Shanley 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 Reinholz as North Dakota'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, Reinholz 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-6 senior forward has led the Deacons to an 11-2-2 record entering this week's regular-season contest with Grand Forks Central, scheduled for May 20. Reinholz scored 14 goals and passed for four assists through 15 games. A First Team All-State selection, she has been named to the All-State Tournament Team three times.

Reinholz has maintained a 4.04 GPA in the classroom. A tutor in her school, she has volunteered locally on behalf of a nursing home, Habitat for Humanity and food-donation drives for the needy.

"Reinholz is a tremendous player," said James Moe, head coach at West Fargo High. "She's very tough to defend. Her vision is fantastic and she's always moving and creating space."

Reinholz has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at North Dakota State University 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.

Reinholz joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Girls Soccer Players of the Year Emily Wendorff (2012-13 & 2011-12, Davies High School), Tessa Neameyer (2010 – 11, Century High School), Jenae Dabill (2009-10, Jamestown), Hannah Langseth (2008-09, Shanley), and Rachael Loomis (2007-08 & 2006-2007, Fargo South), 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.