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**ST. ALBANS SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 12, 2015) — In its 30<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Chris Fleischer of St. Albans School as its 2014-15 Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Fleischer is the first Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Albans 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 Fleischer as District of Columbia'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, Fleischer 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, 155-pound junior midfielder scored 11 goals and passed for seven assists this past season, leading the Bulldogs (13-4-2) to the District of Columbia Interscholastic Athletic Association Tournament championship game. A First Team All-Met selection by the Washington Post, Fleischer is a two-time First Team All-Independent Athletic Conference First Team honoree. He concluded his junior year with 14 goals and 13 assists in his prep soccer career.

Fleischer has maintained an A average in the classroom. A saxophone player in the St. Albans School band, he has volunteered locally at an assisted living facility and has donated his time to a fundraising campaign to benefit autism research.

"Chris Fleischer is a superb player," said Harold Newton, head coach of Georgetown Day School. "He was very active without the ball which made him incredibly dangerous. I thought he was their key man offensively."

Fleischer will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Fleischer joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Soccer Players of the Year Nick Jackson (2013-14, Sidwell Friends School), Nicko Corriveau (2012-13, Gonzaga College High School), Ian Harkes (2011-12, Gonzaga College High School), Joey Wilkins (2010-11, Gonzaga College High School), Ben Norton (2009-10, Sidwell Friends School), Chris Perez (2008-09, Gonzaga College High School), Yoni Berhanu (2007-08, Sidwell Friends School), and Kieran Rice (2006-07, Gonzaga College High School) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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