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**BORAH HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE IDAHO BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 12, 2015) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Josh Szuch of Borah High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Szuch is the first Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Borah 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 Szuch as Idaho'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, Szuch 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 6-foot-2, 200-pound senior forward scored 23 goals and passed for seven assists this past season, leading the Lions (13-5-3) to the Class 5A state quarterfinals. Also the Southern Idaho Conference Class 5A Player of the Year, Szuch was a four-year member of the Borah varsity. He concluded his prep soccer career with 66 goals and 39 assists.

Szuch has maintained a 3.57 GPA in the classroom. An Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America, he has volunteered locally as an elementary school aide and has participated in multiple community-service initiatives in association with his church youth group.

"Josh Szuch is a strong striker who is usually bigger than the defenders who are marking him," said Chris Butzier, head coach of Eagle High. "He was definitely the driving force behind Borah's season."

Szuch has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at Brigham Young University-Hawaii beginning 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.

Szuch joins recent Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Players of the Year Tyson Fox (2013-14, Rocky Mountain High School), Timmy Mueller (2012-13, Post Falls High School), Bryson Pavel (2011-12, Boise High School), Michael Soderlund (2010-11, Timberline High School), Justin Hill (2009-10 & 2008-09, Boise High School), Nick Sykes (2007-08, Mountain View High School), and Mike McLeod (2006-07, Boise 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.

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