

Contact: Kelly Magnus (312-729-3622)

**FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE NEVADA 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 Jackson Dietrich of Foothill High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Nevada Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Dietrich is the first Gatorade Nevada Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Foothill 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 Dietrich as Nevada'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, Dietrich 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-11, 165-pound senior midfielder and forward scored 28 goals and passed for 24 assists this past season, leading the Falcons (19-5) to the Division I state tournament play-in game. A two-time All-Sunrise Conference selection, he concluded his prep soccer career with 35 goals and 42 assists.

Dietrich has maintained a 3.15 weighted GPA in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade award's broad criteria. He has volunteered locally at an assisted living center and as a youth soccer coach.

"Jackson is very skilled with and off the ball," said Gerald Pentsil, head coach of Eldorado High. "He seemed to always make his team better."

Dietrich remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Dietrich joins recent Gatorade Nevada Boys Soccer Players of the Year Danny Musovski (2013-14 & 2012-13, Liberty High School), Ruben Duran (2011-12, Eldorado High School), Matt Polster (2010-11, Palo Verde High School), Joaquin Rivas, (2009-10, Las Vegas High School), Kevin Rogge (2008-09, Centennial), Steven Avena (2007-08, Bishop Gorman), and Zac Zaher (2006-07, Bishop Gorman College Preparatory 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.

###