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**CENTURY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA 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 Jacob Richter of Century High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade North Dakota Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Richter is the fourth Gatorade North Dakota Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Century 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 Richter as North Dakota'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, Richter 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, 145-pound senior forward scored 16 goals and passed for 18 assists this past season, leading the Patriots (16-3-2) to a fifth-place finish at the state tournament. A First Team All-State honoree, Richter was also selected to the All-State Tournament team and the All-Western Dakota Association First Team.

Richter has maintained a 3.18 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and Carrie's Kids, which assists at-risk children.

"Richter is a dangerous, dangerous player," said Tyler Gerhardt, head coach at Mandan High. "He's got great speed with the ball and he's very effective getting his team into attacking positions. He's very unselfish too and knows how to create scoring opportunities for his teammates."

Richter has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Mary 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.

Richter joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Boys Soccer Players of the Year Brad Kelly (2013-14, Century High School), Jacob Weiler (2012-13 & 2011-12, Fargo South High School), Braden Schmid (2010-11, West Fargo High School), Mike Frenzel, (2009-10, Century High School), Matt Glogoza (2008-09, Shanley), Alex Paulson (2007-08, Century), and Isak Tengesdal (2006-07, Minot) 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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