Contact: Kelly Magnus (312-729-3622)

MORGANTOWN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE WEST VIRGINIA 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 Addison Luck of Morgantown High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade West Virginia Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Luck is the eighth Gatorade West Virginia Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Morgantown 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 Luck as West Virginia'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, Luck 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-1, 180-pound junior midfielder scored 18 goals and passed for five assists this past season, leading the Mohigans (21-3-1) to the Class AAA state championship. The younger brother of NFL quarterback Andrew Luck and the Class AAA Midfielder of the Year, Luck was a First Team All-State selection by both the West Virginia High School Soccer Coaches Association and the West Virginia Sports Writers Association.

Luck has maintained a 4.10 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the Morgantown Hi-Y community service club and the Mountain Institute environmental conservation group.

"Addison Luck was the best and smartest player that we saw all season," said Mario Julian, head coach at Wheeling Park High. "He can do it all. He scores with his head, his feet, he passes better than anybody and you just can't get the ball away from him."

Luck 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.

Luck joins recent Gatorade West Virginia Boys Soccer Players of the Year Garrett Phillips (2013-14, George Washington High School), Felipe Thompson (2012-13, Hurricane High School), Tommy Trupo (2011-12 & 2010-11, Charleston Catholic High School), Zack Claudio, (2009-10, George Washington High School), Jeremy Chambers (2008-09, Princeton), Nader Sawtarie (2007-08, The Linsly School), and Vinny Crumrine (2006-07, Wheeling Park) 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.