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**Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)**

**HERITAGE HALL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE OKLAHOMA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 11, 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 Garrett McLaughlin of Heritage Hall as its 2014-15 Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Soccer Player of the Year. McLaughlin is the first Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Heritage Hall.

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 McLaughlin as Oklahoma'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, McLaughlin 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, 170-pound junior forward had led the Chargers to a 13-1 record and the quarterfinals of the Class 5A state tournament at the time of his selection. McLaughlin scored 27 goals and passed for 13 assists through 14 games. A First Team All-City and All-District selection, he helped Heritage Hall to state championships in 2013 and 2014.

McLaughlin has maintained a 3.33 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of youth soccer programs and tornado clean-up efforts, and raised money to defray the costs of a young child's open-heart surgery.

"I haven't seen a kid that age who understands the game as well as McLaughlin does," said Matt Grassmyer, head coach at Oklahoma Christian School. "He's fast, plays well with both feet, reads the game well and makes all the right decisions."

McLaughlin 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.

McLaughlin joins recent Gatorade Oklahoma Boys Soccer Players of the Year Mauro Cichero (2013-14 & 2012-13, Norman North High School), Cristian Mata (2011-12, Union High School), Will Smith (2010-11, Norman North High School), Omar Mata (2009-10, Union High School), Jack Coleman (2008-09, Norman North High School), Thomas Shannon (2007-08, Broken Arrow Senior), and Jonathan Gann (2006-07, Union 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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