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**ST. IGNATIUS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE OHIO BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 11, 2016) — In its 31th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Stephen Milhoan of St. Ignatius High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Ohio Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Milhoan is the third Gatorade Ohio Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Ignatius 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 Milhoan as Ohio'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, Milhoan 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-9, 165-pound junior forward led the Wildcats to a 22-0-1 record and the Division I state championship this past season. Milhoan scored 29 goals and passed for 19 assists. He tallied nine goals and six assists in seven postseason games, including a goal in a 4-0 win over Hilliard Davidson in the state final. The Ohio State Soccer Coaches Association's Division I Player of the Year, Milhoan is a member of the U.S. Soccer Futsal National Team. He concluded his junior year with 49 goals and 30 assists in his prep soccer career.

Milhoan has maintained a 3.58 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at Holy Family Home, an initiative for people with cancer, and at a homeless shelter. He has also donated his time as a youth soccer coach and referee.

"Stephen has great technique, can hit a ball with either foot effectively and has great pace, balance, agility and coordination," said Brett Neiderman, head coach of Dublin Coffman High. "He sees the field so well and can pick the killer pass to unlock another team's defense."

Milhoan has made a verbal commitment to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at Xavier University beginning in the fall of 2017.

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.

Milhoan joins recent Gatorade Ohio Boys Soccer Players of the Year Chris Brennan (2014-15, Copley High School), Jack Clark (2013-14, Mason High School), Sam Bascom (2012-13, Madeira High School), Matt Foldesy (2011-12, St. Ignatius High School), Wil Trapp (2010-11 & 2009-10, Lincoln High School), Matt Wiet (2008-09, Worthington Kilbourne High School), Nick Blevins (2007-08, Bloom Carroll High School), and Lamar Skeeter (2006-07, Fairmont 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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