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## **SHANLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 12, 2017) — In its 32<sup>nd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Jake Reinholz of Shanley High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade North Dakota Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Reinholz is the second Gatorade North Dakota Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Shanley 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 Reinholz 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 June, Reinholz joins an elite alumni association of past state soccer award-winners, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel HS, Calif.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, 2002-03, East Brunswick HS, N.J.), Matt Besler (2004-04, Blue Valley West HS, Kans.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire HS, Mass.), Mallory Pugh (2014-15, Mountain Vista HS, Colo.).

The 6-foot-3, 195-pound senior forward scored 39 goals and passed for 12 assists this past season, leading the Deacons (19-1-2) to the state finals. A two-time First Team All-State selection, Reinholz was named North Dakota Senior Athlete of the Year as well.

Also a football standout, Reinholz has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics, a nursing home and youth sports programs. "What makes Reinholz so dangerous is that he's not a one-dimensional player," said George Dubois, head coach of Grand Forks Central High School. "He can create his own scoring opportunities by dribbling at defenders, he can attack and shoot with either foot, and even if you manage to contain him during open play, he is great in the air and is a constant threat on corners and set pieces."

Reinholz has maintained a 3.93 GPA in the classroom. He will attend North Dakota State University this fall, where he will play football.

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 Player of the Year Selection Committee, 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.

Reinholz joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Boys Soccer Players of the Year Bryce Nybo (2015-16, Bismarck High School), Jacob Richter (2014-15, Century High School), 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 High School), Alex Paulson (2007-08, Century High School), and Isak Tengesdal (2006-07, Minot High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Jake will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

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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