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**BROOMFIELD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE COLORADO BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 6, 2018) — In its 33rd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Michael Mooney of Broomfield High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Colorado Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Mooney is the third Gatorade Colorado Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Broomfield 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 Mooney as Colorado'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, Mooney 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 5-foot-10, 135-pound senior forward led the Eagles to a 17-2-1 record and the Class 5A state championship this past season. Mooney scored 19 goals and passed for nine assists, tallying the lone goal in Broomfield's 1-0 win over Denver East High in the state final. The Class 5A Player of the Year, Mooney finished seventh at the Class 5A State Cross Country meet three days before recording two goals and an assist in a second-round playoff victory over Cherry Creek High. He concluded his prep soccer career with 31 goals and 21 assists.

Mooney has volunteered locally on behalf of road races and has donated his time as part of community beautification projects. "Michael is a warrior and a fantastic player," said Jeff Frykholm, head coach of Fairview High. "He was huge in the state tournament."

Mooney has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to run for the cross country and track teams on scholarship at Colorado State University 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 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.

Mooney joins recent Gatorade Colorado Boys Soccer Players of the Year Tajon Buchanan (2016-17, Legacy High School), Porter Milner (2015-16, Broomfield High School), Quinn Liebmann (2014-15, Boulder High School), David Meyer (2013-14, Pine Creek High School), Miguel Jaime (2012-13, Cherry Creek High School), Shane O'Neill (2011-12, Fairview High School), Tidiane Dia (2010-11, Mountain Vista High School), Cole Chapleski (2009-10, Broomfield High School), Alex Tarnoczi (2008-09, Rock Canyon), Morgan Sacco (2007-08, Greeley Central), and Miguel Rosales (2006-07, Smoky Hill) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Mooney 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.

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