

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE IDAHO BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 6, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Kristian Quiros of Rocky Mountain High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Quiros is the third Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Rocky Mountain 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 Quiros as Idaho'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, Quiros joins an elite alumni association of past state soccer award-winners, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook High School, Mich.), Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel High School, Calif.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy School of Young Women, N.Y.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, 2002-03, East Brunswick High School, N.J.), Matt Besler (2004-04, Blue Valley West High School, Kans.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire High School, Mass.) and Mallory Pugh (2014-15, Mountain Vista High School, Colo.).

The 5-foot-11, 185-pound senior midfielder led the Grizzlies to a 16-2-1 record and the Class 5A state championship this past season. Quiros scored 21 goals and passed for 18 assists, including a tally in Rocky Mountain's 3-2, shootout win over Timberline High in the state title game. A two-time First Team All-State selection, Quiros was the 2018 Class 5A Player of the Year and a United Soccer Coaches All-Far West Region honoree. He concluded his prep soccer career with 35 goals and 37 assists.

Quiros has volunteered locally at a thrift store and as a peer tutor. "This year Kristian started to realize that he could affect the outcome of games and had a confidence that allowed him to take things over," said Bill Taylor, head coach of Rocky Mountain High School. "He had a drive about him that was just not going to lose."

Quiros has maintained a weighted 3.63 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at Yavapai College in Arizona 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. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Quiros joins recent Gatorade Idaho Boys Soccer Players of the Year Ahmed Ibrahimovic (2017-18, Borah High School), Jonah Dalmas (2016-17, Rocky Mountain High School), Alain Murhula (2015-16, Timberline High School), Josh Szuch (2014-15, Borah High School) and Tyson Fox (2013-14, Rocky Mountain High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Quiros also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

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