

CORONADO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEVADA 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 **Alfredo Diaz of Coronado High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Nevada Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Diaz is the second Gatorade Nevada Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Coronado 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 Diaz as Nevada'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, Diaz 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-8, 140-pound senior forward scored 38 goals and passed for 17 assists this past season, leading the Cougars (21-4-1) to the Class 4A state championship game. Diaz scored seven goals in the postseason, including the lone goal in Coronado's state quarterfinal victory. The Desert Region Player of the Year, Diaz was a First Team All-State selection. He concluded his prep soccer career with 59 goals and 35 assists.

Diaz has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach and mentor. "Alfredo scored in a variety of ways," said David Ostler, head coach of Eldorado High. "He can beat you off the dribble, nail set pieces, finish rebounds and put in crosses. He is also very active off the ball creating and setting up teammates."

Diaz has maintained a weighted 3.24 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the College of Southern Nevada 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.

Diaz joins recent Gatorade Nevada Boys Soccer Players of the Year John Lynam (2017-18 & 2016-17, Coronado High School), Peter Garrett (2015-16, Carson High School), Jackson Dietrich (2014-15, Foothill High School) and Danny Musovski (2013-14, Liberty High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Diaz 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.