

PUYALLUP HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WASHINGTON 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 **Logan Oyama of Puyallup High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Washington Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Oyama is the first Gatorade Washington Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Puyallup 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 Oyama as Washington'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, Oyama 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-10, 155-pound junior forward led the Vikings to a 20-2 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Oyama recorded 20 goals and 13 assists and scored the game-winner in Puyallup's 2-1 victory over Mount Si in the state final. In six postseason games, Oyama tallied eight goals and four assists. He missed most of his sophomore year with a separated shoulder, but he was a starting defensive center midfielder as a freshman.

A saxophone player in the school band, Oyama has volunteered as a youth soccer coach, and has donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through his school's Key Club. "Logan Oyama: Where to start? This player is lethal in every aspect of the game," said Steve Aguilar, head coach of Emerald Ridge High. "Logan made it extremely difficult to defend because he could hurt you in many ways. His mere presence changes your game plan on how to attack Puyallup and that's what you don't want to do as a coach."

Oyama has maintained a 3.99 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Oyama joins recent Gatorade Washington Boys Soccer Players of the Year Michael Rojas (2017-18, Royal High School), Matt Williams (2016-17, Archbishop Murphy High School), Bennett Lehner (2015-16, Camas High School), Wallis Lapsley (2014-15, Lakeside School) and Carter Johnson (2013-14, Skyview High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

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