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**NITRO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WEST VIRGINIA 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 Seth Jordan of Nitro High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade West Virginia Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Jordan is the first Gatorade West Virginia Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Nitro 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 Jordan as West Virginia'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, Jordan 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-1, 165-pound senior forward scored 41 goals and passed for 17 assists this past season, leading the Wildcats (23-1-1) to the Class AA-A state championship. The state's returning Gatorade Boys Soccer Player of the Year, Jordan is a three-time All-State honoree, a two-time Kanawha Valley Player of the Year and was selected to play in the High School All-American Game following his senior campaign.

Jordan has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and Ronald McDonald House Charities. "Seth Jordan is a great all-around player," said Brock Jarrett, head coach of Pocahontas High. "He plays hard the whole time he's on the field and it seems like everything with that team went through him."

Jordan has maintained a 3.69 GPA in the classroom. He will attend Marshall 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.

Two-time winner Jordan joins Gatorade West Virginia Boys Soccer Players of the Year Addison Luck (2015-16 & 2014-15, Morgantown High School), Garrett Phillips (2013-14, George Washington High School), Felipe Thompson (2012-13, Hurricane High School), Tommy Trupo (2011-12 & 2010-11, Charleston Catholic High School), Zack Claudio (2009-10, George Washington High School), Jeremy Chambers (2008-09, Princeton High School), Nader Sawtarie (2007-08, The Linsly School), and Vinny Crumrine (2006-07, Wheeling Park High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Jordan 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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