

**TOLMAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE RHODE ISLAND BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 8, 2020) — In its 35<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Roy Barrios of Tolman High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Barrios is the second Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Tolman 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 Barrios as Rhode Island'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, Barrios joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, 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 (2004-05, 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, 160-pound senior midfielder recorded 14 goals and 13 assists this past season, leading the Tigers (12-5-2) to the Division I state championship game. The Division I Player of the Year, Barrios was a United Soccer Coaches High School All-American selection. A two-time First Team All-State honoree, he concluded his prep soccer career with 30 goals and 30 assists.

Barrios has volunteered locally with the Central Falls Summer Youth Development Organization and as a youth soccer coach. "Roy Barrios was by far the best player in Rhode Island this year," said Joao Santos, head coach of Central High School. "He single-handedly took apart most defenses and carried Tolman on a title run for the second season in a row. He has great technical ability and the best vision of the game."

Barrios has maintained a 3.15 GPA in the classroom. He remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Barrios joins recent Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Soccer Players of the Year Luis Blanco (2018-19, Tolman High School), Jon Sherman (2017-18, South Kingstown High School), Poom Mera (2016-17, Moses Brown School), Stavros Zarokostas (2015-16, La Salle Academy), Leandro Alves (2014-15, Shea High School), and Komla Dogbey (2013-14, Hope High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

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](http://www.Gatorade.com/POY), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY](http://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Gatorade](http://www.twitter.com/Gatorade).

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