

**BUFFALO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WYOMING BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 8, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Joe Musselman of Buffalo High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Wyoming Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Musselman is the second Gatorade Wyoming Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Buffalo 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 Musselman as Wyoming'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, Musselman 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-9, 145-pound senior midfielder and forward concluded his prep career with 12 goals and 14 assists. A First Team All-State and All-Conference honoree, Musselman was also named the Class 3A Underclassman of the Year as a junior. He scored five goals and passed for seven assists in 2019, leading the Bison (11-7-1) to third place at the state tournament.

Musselman has served as a mentor for younger students and has volunteered locally on behalf of Meals on Wheels, Boys & Girls Clubs of America and a youth basketball camp. "Joe has always been small of stature, but not of heart or ability," said Buffalo High School coach Dick Edgcomb. "His creativity on the field is what stands out most. His one-on-one moves, ball control and spins are a delight to watch, and his hustle is astounding; he doesn't appear to tire."

Musselman has maintained a 4.08 GPA in the classroom. He will attend the University of Wyoming.

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.

Musselman joins recent Gatorade Wyoming Boys Soccer Players of the Year Isaac Howell (2018-19, Thunder Basin High School), Patrick Marchal (2017-18, Green River High School), Ross Elliott (2016-17, Cheyenne Central High School), Cameron Campbell (2015-16, Laramie High School), and Tristan White (2014-15 & 2013-14, Riverton 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, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

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