BOULDER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE COLORADO BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 16, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Cameron Gerber** of **Boulder High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Colorado Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Gerber is the second Gatorade Colorado Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Boulder 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 Gerber as Colorado'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, Gerber joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School, Md.), Jacob Shaffelburg (2017-18, Berkshire School, Mass.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire School, Mass.) and Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel High School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-11, 162-pound senior midfielder scored 16 goals and passed for eight assists this past season, leading the Panthers (11-5-1) to the second round of the Class 5A state tournament. The Front Range League Player of the Year and a United Soccer Coaches All-American selection, Gerber participated in the High School All-American Game in December. He concluded his prep soccer career with 34 goals and 21 assists.

Gerber has volunteered locally as an elementary school tutor with the I Have a Dream Foundation. He also donated his time to community beautification projects and as a youth soccer coach. "Cameron is extremely dynamic and made a tremendous impact for Boulder whenever he was on the field," said Tony Romany, head coach of Legacy High School. "He is at another level."

Gerber has maintained a weighted 4.16 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at the University of Maryland this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Gerber joins recent Gatorade Colorado Boys Soccer Players of the Year Ben Beckman (2021-22, Grandview High School), Jeff Koch (2020-21, Liberty High School), and Thad Dewing (2019-20 & 2018-19, Air Academy High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate studentathletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u>, Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u> and Twitter at <u>twitter.com/Gatorade</u>.