

Press Release:

November 15, 2019

The National Association of Esports Coaches and Directors (NAECAD) Announces October Player of the Month Award

Des Moines, IA. – Darian Hu of the University of Missouri, has been named the college NAECAD Player of the Month for October 2019. Devin Cortese of Washington Park High School, Racine Unified School District, Racine, Wisconsin, has been named the high school NAECAD Player of the Month for October 2019 the NAECAD national office announced Wednesday.

Darian is a flex player for Mizzou Esports. Kevin Reape, Head Coach and General Manager for Mizzou Esports, and NAECAD member, had this to say about Darian, “Darian has hit the ground running since arriving to campus in August. Darian is a freshman from St. Louis, Missouri and is majoring in Computer Science. He has continued to perform well in his play throughout October and has been a great team member.”

Devin plays for Washington Park High School and his esports director has this to say about Devin, “Since the start of the season Devin has gone above and beyond to lift school morale by engaging with his teammates and taking the initiative whenever given the chance. He’s made himself open to teaching and mentoring many of his younger classmates, while maintaining his scholarly duties. In only his second year as an esports scholar, I’ve been able to watch this young man grow from a quiet introvert, into the driven leader you see today. Between his positive attitude and go getter mentality I believe this kid could be a great asset to the future development of technology and gaming initiatives.”

October Nominees Receiving Votes: William Kim, Grand View University (Iowa); Ernesto Dagnino, The REAL School (Racine, WI)

This coveted award recognizes individuals for a balance of athletic achievement, sportsmanship and citizenship. While elite performance in the game is important, this award is aimed at recognizing the overall impact the individual has made. Example characteristics include:

- Impactful or notable in-game performance.
- Evidence of good sportsmanship and teamwork.
- Community service.
- Superior academic achievement.
- Overcoming personal obstacles.

Each month, players are nominated and voted on by their NAECAD member coaches or directors. One Player of the Month will be recognized each month (September – April).

The Player of the Month recipients are eligible for nomination of the Player of the Year award. The individual receiving the Player of the Year award will be recognized in person at the NAECAD National Convention each year. The individuals receiving the Player of the Month award will be recognized at the NAECAD National Convention each year. Student athletes nominated for the Player of the Month award will be eligible for nomination of All-American status. Student athletes receiving the top ten most votes will be recognized at both the high school and the university levels for All-American status. The individuals receiving All-American status will be recognized each year at the NAECAD National Convention.