

Press Release:

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

Des Moines, IA. – William Kim of Grand View University, has been named the college NAECAD Player of the Month for December 2019. Angel LaRose, of Horlick High School in the Racine Unified School District, Racine, WI, has been named the high school NAECAD Player of the Month for December 2019 the NAECAD national office announced Monday.

William is a sophomore League of Legends player at Grand View University, majoring in Game Design and Interactive Analytics. Dana Hustedt, Director of Esports and NAECAD member, says this about William, “William has been a driving force in the success at Grand View during the fall and really stepped up the intensity of our game play. He has been a great addition to our team this year. He also goes above and beyond in his school work to be the best all-around student athlete.”

Angel plays for Horlick High School in the Racine Unified School District. Angel has been a master level player at Overwatch since he started with the Horlick team. But he also lifts everyone up around him, including the other teams in the Racine Unified School District, and is a true Scholar Gamer. Angel LaRosa commented about playing for his school, “After we are done we all get a feeling of relief and happiness. All of us give each other high fives and fist bumps. It is a very nice feeling to be able to do something I enjoy with my friends and compete against the other schools in the area. Everyone in the RUSD area are like brothers and sisters, despite being competitive towards each other we love when the other succeeds.” Check out one of his highlights here: <https://youtu.be/-u2jsqVoT1k>

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.