

## **Roger Espinoza**

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**Years Attended:** 2005-06

**Area of Study:** Athlete/Soccer

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Former Yavapai College soccer player Roger Espinoza went in the first round of Friday's MLS Draft, becoming the fifth former Roughrider to reach professional soccer's summit in America.

The Kansas City Wizards, who also selected Chance Myers with the No. 1 pick, chose Espinoza with the 11th overall pick. Espinoza played 50 games in his two-year Yavapai career (2005-06) earning first team All-America honors and the Region 1 Player of the Year.

After YC, Espinoza played at Ohio State, leading the Buckeyes to the NCAA Championship game this past fall. He will forgo his senior season at OSU to join the MLS. "To me that's an unbelievable accomplishment for a kid just one year removed from Yavapai College, being drafted in the first round in the highest professional league in the United States," Yavapai head coach Mike Pantalione said Friday.

Espinoza, 21, joins YC alumni Alan Gordon, Mike Randolph and Avery John currently playing in the MLS.