

**BISHOP GORMAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEVADA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 15, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Tommi Stockham of Bishop Gorman High School as its 2018-19 Gatorade Nevada Volleyball Player of the Year. Stockham is the first Gatorade Nevada Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Bishop Gorman 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 Stockham as Nevada's best high school volleyball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Volleyball Player of the Year award to be announced in January, Stockham joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including USA Volleyball players Kayla Banwarth (2006-07, Wahlert High School, Iowa), Alisha Glass (2005-06, Leland Public High School, Mich.), Jordan Larson (2004-05, Logan View High School, Neb.) and Foluke Akinradewo (2004-05, St. Thomas High School, Fla.).

The 6-foot-2 junior outside hitter led the Gaels to a 39-4 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Stockham recorded 378 kills, 241 digs, 61 service aces and 40 blocks. The Southern Nevada and Desert League Player of the Year, she was named a PrepVolleyball.com All-American.

Stockham has volunteered locally on behalf of Teens Helping Teens, the CASA Foundation for at-risk children and Baby's Bounty of Clark County supplying essential items to disadvantaged families with a new baby. "Top to bottom, Tommi Stockham is the best player in town," said Erin Hill, head coach at Green Valley High. "She's really, really good in every aspect of the game, and when she needs to turn it up a notch, she can."

Stockham has maintained a 3.15 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school this fall.

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.

Stockham joins recent Gatorade Nevada Volleyball Players of the Year Whittnee Nhipali (2017-18, Shadow Ridge High School), Sydney Berenyi (2016-17, Silverado High School), Cali Thompson (2015-16, Coronado High School), Berkeley Oblad (2014-15, Coronado High School), and Deja Harris (2013-14, Calvary Chapel Christian School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Stockham has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of her choosing. She is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

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.