

DESERT OASIS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEVADA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 23, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced **Aaron Roberts of Desert Oasis High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Nevada Baseball Player of the Year**. Roberts is the first Gatorade Nevada Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Desert Oasis 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 Roberts as Nevada's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Roberts joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo High School, Mich.), Jon Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Preparatory School, Wash.), David Price (2003-04, Blackman High School, Tenn.), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas), Rick Porcello (2006-2007, Seaton Hall Preparatory School, N.J.) and Kris Bryant (2009-10, Bonanza High School, Nev.).

The 6-foot-3, 215-pound senior infielder and right-handed pitcher led the Diamondbacks (34-8) to the Class 4A state championship this past season, batting .476 with 13 home runs, 57 RBI and a .605 on-base percentage. A two-time First Team All-Conference selection, he also compiled a 6-0 record on the mound with a 1.32 ERA and 71 strikeouts in 37 innings. In the Class 4A state title-clinching victory over Reno, he turned in a 5.1-inning, 11-strikeout gem.

Roberts has volunteered locally on behalf of Three Square Food Bank and as a youth baseball instructor. "Aaron Roberts is one of the hardest workers I have ever coached," said Desert Oasis High head coach Paul Buboltz. "He is a coach's dream player because of his outstanding effort on and off the field. He is a true team captain who leads by example."

Roberts has maintained a 3.27 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of California at Berkeley beginning 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. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Roberts joins recent Gatorade Nevada Baseball Players of the Year Austin Pfeifer (2017-18, Arbor View High School), Austin Wells (2016-17, Bishop Gorman High School), Nick Quintana (2015-16, Arbor View High School), Cadyn Grenier (2014-15, Bishop Gorman High School), and Cooper Powell (2013-14, Centennial High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Roberts also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He 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.

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