

## **BISHOP GORMAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEVADA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 13, 2026) — In its 41<sup>st</sup> year celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Lizzy Spaight of Bishop Gorman High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Nevada Girls Basketball Player of the Year.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes for their excellence in sport, academics and community. The award recognizes Spaight as Nevada’s best high school girls basketball player, and she joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Candace Parker (2002-03 & 2003-04, Naperville Central High School, IL) Paige Bueckers (2020-21, Hopkins High School, MN) and Aaliyah Chavez (2024-25, Monterey High School, TX).

The 5-foot-8 senior point guard averaged 19.3 points, 5.6 rebounds, 4.4 assists and four steals per game this past season, leading the Gaels (23-3) to the Class 5A state title, the program’s second in three years. Spaight shot 48 percent from the field, including 41 percent from 3-point range, and sank 77 percent of her free throws. The state’s 2023-24 Gatorade Player of the Year and the 2026 NIAA Class 5A State Championship MVP, she’s ranked as the nation’s No. 18 recruit in her class by 247Sports.

Spaight has volunteered locally serving meals to the homeless and assembling backpacks for underserved schoolchildren. She has also donated her time as a youth sports camp instructor and as part of holiday turnkey drives for the needy. “I’ve had the privilege of watching Lizzy grow over the past four years, and her development has been nothing short of remarkable,” said Lyric Knight, head coach at Desert Pines High School. “Her elite skill set, competitive fire and ability to impact the game at both ends of the floor set her apart as one of the most complete players in the state. What truly makes her special is her leadership and relentless drive. She doesn’t just play the game, she elevates everyone around her.

Spaight has maintained a 3.29 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play basketball at the University of Texas this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one state winner from each of the 50 states and Washington D.C., in 12 different sports: football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, baseball, softball, boys and girls soccer, and boys and girls track & field. In total, 610 high school athletes are honored each year. From the pool of state winners, one national winner is selected in each of the 12 sports. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the winners in each sport.

As part of Gatorade’s commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$6.4 million in grants to winners across more than 2,200 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).

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