

KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS- KAPALAMA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE HAWAII BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 2, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Elijah Ickes of Kamehameha Schools- Kapālama High School is the 2022-23 Gatorade Hawaii Baseball Player of the Year. Ickes is the fifth Gatorade Hawaii Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Kamehameha Schools- Kapālama 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 Ickes as Hawaii's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Ickes joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Jackson Holliday (2021-22, Stillwater High School, Okla.), Bobby Witt Jr. (2018-19, Colleyville Heritage High School, Texas), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo High School, Mich.).

The 6-foot, 180-pound senior shortstop batted .448 as the Warriors' lead-off spark plug, swiping 26 bases and scoring 36 runs to anchor Kamehameha's run to the Division I state championship. Ickes went 3-for-3 and scored the game-winning run in a 4-3 state final win over Baldwin. He was named the 2023 Interscholastic League of Honolulu Player of the Year and ranks among the state's top five prospects by Perfect Game.

Ickes has volunteered locally organizing food drives and has donated generous amounts of his time umpiring youth baseball games. "He's the best player on the field at all times," said 'Iolani School head coach Kurt Miyahari. "He always did something to impact the game in a positive way. Even if he didn't get a hit, you could feel him make a difference."

Ickes has maintained a 3.53 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Hawaii 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Ickes joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Baseball Players of the Year Nu'u Contrades (2021-22, Saint Louis School), Caleb Lomavita (2020-21, Saint Louis School), Kala'i Rosario (2019-20, Waiakea High School), and Micah Yonamine (2018-19, 'Iolani School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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