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

CHICAGO (March 8, 2018) — In its 33<sup>rd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Jamal Bey of Bishop Gorman High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Nevada Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Bey is the tenth Gatorade Nevada Boys Basketball 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 Bey as Nevada's best high school boys basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award to be announced in March, Bey joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph HS, N.J.), Dwight Howard (2003-04, SW Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln HS, Texas), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood HS, Calif.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington HS, Colo.) and Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame HS, Calif.).

The 6-foot-7, 195-pound senior guard/forward led the Gaels to a 29-4 season, capping it off with the program's seventh consecutive state title. In pacing the Class 4A Nevada state champions, Bey scored 22.1 points a game to go with averages of 8.1 rebounds, 2.1 assists and 1.7 steals. A three-year starter and a 2018 ESPN 100 recruit, Bey was a unanimous choice for Sunset Southwest League MVP this year.

In addition to spending time with the elderly at the Atria Seville Senior Living Center, Bey volunteers locally at elementary schools where he reads to students, runs intramural programs and tutors at-risk pupils. He also donates his time as a youth basketball coach. "I think Jamal's the best player in the state," said Jeff Kaufman, head coach at Coronado High. "We played against them a couple times, and he's calm, collected, cool. In big games, he's a big-time player. He's one of the most athletic, smartest kids we have in Vegas right now."

Bey has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Washington this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Bey joins recent Gatorade Nevada Boys Basketball Players of the Year Troy Brown (2016-17, Centennial High School), Zach Collins (2015-16, Bishop Gorman High School), Chase Jeter (2014-15, Bishop Gorman High School), Noah Robotham (2013-14, Bishop Gorman High School), Marcus Allen (2012-13, Centennial High School), Shabazz Muhammad (2011-12 & 2010-11, Bishop Gorman High School), Johnathan Loyd (2009-10, Bishop Gorman), Anthony Marshall (2008-09, Mojave High School), and Luke Babbitt (2007-08 & 2006-07, Galena High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Jamal will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants – one for each sport – will be announced throughout the year.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow the conversation on Twitter #GatoradePOY. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit <u>http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com/</u>.