

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

**CHICAGO** (January 13, 2020) — In its 35<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Tommi Stockham of Bishop Gorman High School** as its **2019-20 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 senior outside hitter led the Gaels to a 34-7 record and their second straight Class 4A state championship this past season. The state's returning Gatorade Volleyball Player of the Year, Stockham amassed 622 kills, 402 digs, 92 blocks and 79 service aces. The Southern Nevada and Desert League Player of the Year, she ranked as the nation's No. 32 Senior Ace by PrepVolleyball.com.

Stockham has volunteered locally on behalf of her school's Dig Pink campaign to benefit breast cancer awareness and research. "Tommi Stockham is one of the best players to have ever come out of Nevada," said Erin Hill, head coach at Green Valley High School. "She's so strong, she can just take over a game. She's amazing to watch and has a tremendous influence on every game she plays."

Stockham has maintained a 3.09 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at Indiana University 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.

Two-time winner Stockham joins Gatorade Nevada Volleyball Players of the Year Whittnee Nihipali (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](http://www.Gatorade.com/POY), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY](http://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Gatorade](http://www.twitter.com/Gatorade).

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