

**COLONY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE ALASKA FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 6, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jack Nash** of **Colony High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Alaska Football Player of the Year**. Nash is the third Gatorade Alaska Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Colony 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 Nash as Alaska’s best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award to be announced in January, Nash joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Trevor Lawrence (2018-19 & 2016-17, Cartersville High School, Ga.), Matthew Stafford (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Emmitt Smith (1986-87, Escambia High School, Fla.).

The 6-foot-2, 185-pound junior quarterback and safety led Colony High School to a 9-2 record and the program’s first Division I championship in history, scoring the game-winning touchdown with 17 seconds left on the clock to clinch a 14-7 victory over Juneau-Douglas/Thunder Mountain High School. Nash compiled 2,656 total yards and 34 touchdowns as a dual-threat quarterback and recorded 103 tackles as a safety. He also intercepted a state season-high 12 passes on defense, returning three for touchdowns.

Nash has volunteered locally as part of student government and leadership programs at Colony High School and also as a football coach in the area Pop Warner program. “Nash is one of the most explosive two-way players that Alaska has seen in many years,” said West Anchorage High School coach Tim Davis. “He’s the complete quarterback and a [continual homerun] threat. Defensively, he covers sideline-to-sideline and plays the run with physicality. Nash is one of the most complete players this state has seen.”

Nash has maintained a 3.4 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Nash joins recent Gatorade Alaska Football Players of the Year Kyler Johnson (2021-22, East Anchorage High School), Jordan Holland (2020-21, East Anchorage High School), Jace Henry (2019-20, Lathrop High School), and Colton Herman (2018-19, East Anchorage High 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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