SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE IDAHO 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 **Kenyon Sadiq** of **Skyline High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Idaho Football Player of the Year**. Sadiq is the first Gatorade Idaho Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Skyline 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 Sadiq as Idaho'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, Sadiq 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-4, 225-pound senior wide receiver caught 62 passes for 1,303 yards and 18 touchdowns, leading the Grizzlies (10-3) to their third-consecutive 4A state championship. Sadiq was dominant on Idaho's biggest stage, recording 12 catches for 376 yards and seven touchdowns in Skyline High School's final two postseason games.

Sadiq has volunteered locally in the community by visiting elementary schools to read books to students and talk about the importance of academics in conjunction with athletics. "What makes him so tough is that he lines up in different places for Skyline High School," said Hillcrest High School head coach Brennon Mossholder. "He was at tight end most of the night and just dominated us in the run game. In other games, he's dominant as a pass catcher and will catch multiple touchdowns. He's also an excellent punter, dangerous returner and even plays key situations on defense."

Sadiq has maintained a 3.46 GPA in the classroom. At the time of his selection, he'd made a verbal commitment to play football on scholarship at the University of Oregon 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Sadiq joins recent Gatorade Idaho Football Players of the Year Colston Loveland (2021-22, Gooding High School), Ben Ford (2020-21, Eagle High School), Austin Bolt (2019-20, Borah High School), and Keegan Duncan (2018-19, Declo 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 studentathletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u>, Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u> and Twitter at <u>twitter.com/Gatorade</u>