## JSERRA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE CALIFORNIA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (June 2, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Trent Caraway** of **JSerra Catholic High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade California Baseball Player of the Year**. Caraway is the second Gatorade California Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from JSerra Catholic 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 Caraway as California'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, Caraway 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, Colleybille 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-2, 198-pound senior shortstop and third baseman led the Lions (24-9) to their second consecutive CIF Division 1 South Championship this past season. Caraway batted .462 with seven home runs, 11 doubles and 20 RBI. He also broke the school's single-season record for hits (49), previously held by former MLB No. 1 draft pick Royce Lewis. MVP of the Trinity League, he was a Rawlings/Perfect Game Preseason First Team All-American and he's ranked as the nation's No. 22 prospect in the Class of 2023 by Prep Baseball Report.

Caraway has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics, the Make-A-Wish Foundation, a Challenger League baseball program, and Olive Crest, a center for children in crisis. "Trent Caraway is a special hitter," said Eric Borba, head coach at Orange Lutheran High School. "It's remarkable what he's done this year, batting close to .500 against one of the toughest schedules in the state."

Caraway has maintained a 3.31 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Oregon State University 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.

Caraway joins recent Gatorade California Baseball Players of the Year Malcolm Moore (2021-22 & 2020-21, C.K. McClatchy High School), Tyler Soderstrom (2019-20, Turlock High School), and Josh Hahn (2018-19, Huntington Beach 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 <a href="mailto:facebook.com/Gatorade">facebook.com/Gatorade</a> and Twitter at <a href="mailto:twitter.com/Gatorade">twitter.com/Gatorade</a>.