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

CHICAGO (June 2, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Easton Shelton** of **Bishop Gorman High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Nevada Baseball Player of the Year**. Shelton is the tenth Gatorade Nevada Baseball 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 Shelton as Nevada'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, Shelton 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-4, 225-pound senior first baseman led the Gaels to a 35-2 record and the Class 5A state championship this past season. Shelton posted a .400 batting average with 12 home runs, 39 runs scored and 48 RBI. He also belted 10 doubles, compiling a .507 on-base percentage and a .854 slugging percentage.

Shelton has volunteered locally as a youth baseball coach. "Easton was so valuable to his team," said Charlie Cerrone, head coach of Centennial High School. "He was the glue for Gorman."

Shelton has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has made a verbal commitment to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas 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.

Shelton joins recent Gatorade Nevada Baseball Players of the Year Robby Snelling (2021-22, McQueen High School), Tyler Whitaker (2020-21, Bishop Gorman High School), Carson Wells (2019-20, Bishop Gorman High School), and Aaron Roberts (2018-19, Desert Oasis 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>.