

**MILILANI HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE HAWAII FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 3, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Kini McMillan** of **Mililani High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Hawaii Football Player of the Year**. McMillan is the fourth Gatorade Hawaii Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Mililani High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation’s top high school athletes for excellence on the field, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes McMillan as Hawaii’s best high school football player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Emmitt Smith (1986-87, Escambia High School, Fla.), Peyton Manning (1993-94, Isidore Newman School, La.) and Jackson Arnold (2022-23, John H. Guyer High School, Texas).

The 6-foot, 190-pound junior quarterback passed for 3,521 yards and 42 touchdowns this past season, completing 68.1 percent of his throws at 9.6 yards per attempt to lead the Trojans (11-2) to the Open Division state title game. McMillan also rushed for 575 yards and 11 scores, averaging 5.5 yards per carry en route to 53 total touchdowns. A three-star quarterback, he’s ranked as Hawaii’s No. 12 player in the Class of 2025 by 247Sports.

McMillan has volunteered locally as a youth football coach, referee and quarterbacks mentor. “Having played the quarterback position in college, I definitely think he’s a step above the competition when looking at his on-field leadership and quarterback play accomplishments,” said Radford High School head coach Fred Salanoa.

McMillan has maintained a B average 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.

McMillan joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Football Players of the Year Liona Lefau (2022-23, Kahuku High School), Kainoa Carvalho (2021-22, Kahuku High School), Titus Mokiao-Atimalala (2020-21, Campbell High School), and Jayden deLaura (2019-20, Saint Louis School), among the state’s list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade’s commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners’ grants have totaled more than \$4.9 million across more than 1,600 organizations.

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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