

**BISHOP KELLY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE IDAHO 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 **Peter Minnaert** of **Bishop Kelly High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Idaho Football Player of the Year**. Minnaert is the fourth Gatorade Idaho Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Bishop Kelly 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 Minnaert as Idaho’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 5-foot-11, 200-pound senior running back rushed 1,646 yards and 30 touchdowns on 166 carries this past season, leading the Knights (13-0) to the 4A state championship. Minnaert gained 138 yards on the ground and scored three times in a 29-26 title game win against Hillcrest, earning IdahoSports.com 4A Championship Game MVP honors by sparking Bishop Kelly to its first crown since 2015. On the season, he also caught nine passes for 175 yards and two touchdowns in addition to returning five kickoffs for a 41.8-yard average and a score.

Minnaert has volunteered locally serving food to the unhoused in association with St. Vincent de Paul Idaho and as a peer tutor. A devoted member of his St. John’s Cathedral church community, where he serves as an usher, he completed a week-long service trip to New Orleans last summer, where he helped rebuild homes as part of the Saint Bernard Project. Minnaert has also maintained his own seasonal lawn care business since his freshman year. “Our game plan centered around stopping Peter,” said Skyview head coach David Robinson “We have elite linebackers and felt we could be successful if we got our linebackers one-on-one with him. He blew up that plan. Peter was on another level compared to any other player we saw this year. I watched him carry his team to the state championship and he’s a threat to score every time he touches the ball. In my opinion, he was the difference between Bishop Kelly and a very talented Hillcrest team.”

Minnaert has maintained a 4.14 weighted GPA in the classroom. He remains undecided on a collegiate destination.

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.

Minnaert joins recent Gatorade Idaho Football Players of the Year Kenyon Sadiq (2022-23, Skyline High School), Colston Loveland (2021-22, Gooding High School), Ben Ford (2020-21, Eagle High School), and Austin Bolt (2019-20, Borah High 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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