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

**CHICAGO** (January 3, 2023) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Micah Alejado** of **Bishop Gorman High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Nevada Football Player of the Year**. Alejado is the eigth Gatorade Nevada Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Bishop Gorman 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 Alejado as Nevada'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 state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-11, 175-pound senior quarterback led the Gaels to a 12-0 record and the Class 5A state championship this past season. Alejado passed for 2,714 yards and 35 touchdowns without throwing an interception, completing 144-of-186 attempts (77.4 percent). He also rushed for 261 yards and three scores. A three-time First Team All-State selection, Alejado was the 2022 MaxPreps National Junior of the Year. He concluded his prep football career with 9,061 passing yards and 124 touchdowns.

Alejado has volunteered locally making gift baskets for the less fortunate and as a youth math tutor. He has also donated his time to St. Jude Food Bank in his native Hawaii. "Micah has been the leader of our offense for his entire high school career," said Brent Browner, head coach of Bishop Gorman High. "With so many weapons at his disposal, he led the nation's most potent offensive attack, which punted a total of three times all season."

Alejado has maintained a weighted 3.07 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play football on scholarship at the University of Hawaii 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.

Two-time winner Alejado joins recent Gatorade Nevada Football Players of the Year Germie Bernard (2021-22, Liberty High School), Elijah Tau-Tolliver (2020-21, Reed High School), and Rome Odunze (2019-20, Bishop Gorman 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 <a href="mailto:facebook.com/Gatorade">facebook.com/Gatorade</a> and Twitter at <a href="mailto:twitter.com/Gatorade">twitter.com/Gatorade</a>.