MOJAVE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEVADA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 20, 2025)— In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **C.J. Shaw** of **Mojave High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Nevada Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Shaw is the second Gatorade Nevada Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Mojave High School.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their success on the court, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Shaw as Nevada's best high school boys basketball player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph High School, N.J.), Jayson Tatum (2013-14, 2014-15 & 2015-16, Chaminade College Preparatory School, Mo.) and Cooper Flagg (2023-24, Montverde Academy, Fl.).

The 6-foot-4, 185-pound senior guard averaged 21.6 points, 5.2 rebounds and 5.2 assists per game this past season, leading the Rattlers (19-10) to the Class 5A state championship game. Shaw also averaged 3.8 steals per game while shooting 52.6 percent from the floor (209-of-397). The 2024 Class 5A co-Offensive Player of the Year, he is a four-time First Team All-Southern Region selection and concluded his prep basketball career with 2,319 points.

Shaw has helped organize a blood-donation drive to benefit the American Red Cross. He has also volunteered locally at the Las Vegas Marathon and on behalf of multiple community service initiatives through his church. "CJ had a large burden on his shoulders to carry his team," said Joe Bedowitz, head coach of Sierra Vista High School. "His impact was felt every night on the floor. He was extremely dangerous on the court."

Shaw has maintained a weighted 3.62 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play basketball at the University of California, Santa Barbara 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 across 12 different high school sports – 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.

Shaw joins recent Gatorade Nevada Boys Basketball Players of the Year Xavion Staton (2023-24, Sierra Vista High School), Dedan 'DJ' Thomas (2022-23, Liberty High School), Darrion Williams (2021-22, Bishop Gorman High School) and Jaden Hardy (2020-21, Coronado 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, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate studentathletes, visit <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u>. Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> and X(Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.