BISHOP HENDRICKEN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE RHODE ISLAND BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 12, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Brent Karpowich** of **Bishop Hendricken High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Soccer Player of the Year**.

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 field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Karpowich as Rhode Island's best high school boys soccer player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School, M.D.) and Ransford Gyan (2022-23 & 2023-24, St. Benedict's Preparatory School, N.J.).

The 5-foot-9, 160-pound senior forward led the Hawks to an 18-3-1 record and the Division 1 state championship this past season. Karpowich scored 23 goals and passed for 20 assists, scoring a goal and also converting his penalty kick in Bishop Hendricken High School's 3-2, shootout win over La Salle Academy in the state final. The Division 1 Player of the Year, Karpowich was a United Soccer Coaches High School All-American selection. He concluded his prep soccer career with 42 goals and 43 assists.

Karpowich has volunteered locally as part of multiple food drives during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons. He has also donated his time to the Autism Project, providing support as a one-on-one counselor. "Brent is the best player in the state," said Don Denham, head coach of Barrington High School. "He is fast, strong and smart. He can finish and was a great piece in their incredible run to the state championship."

Karpowich has maintained a weighted 3.82 GPA in the classroom. He will attend Wheaton College, where he will play soccer, 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.

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>.

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