

**MOUNTAIN CITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE
NAMED GATORADE ALASKA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE
YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 13, 2026) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Keelie Kronberger of Mountain City Christian Academy is the 2025-26 Gatorade Alaska Girls Basketball 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 excellence in sport, academics and community. The award recognizes Kronberger as Alaska’s best high school girls basketball player, and she joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Candace Parker (2002-03 & 2003-04, Naperville Central High School, IL) Paige Bueckers (2020-21, Hopkins High School, MN) and Aaliyah Chavez (2024-25, Monterey High School, TX).

At the time of her selection, the 6-foot senior guard had led the Lions to a 23-3 record and a berth in the 2026 Northern Lights Conference regional tournament. Kronberger averaged 29.4 points, 7.2 rebounds and 3.5 steals through 25 games while shooting 52.8 percent from the floor and 34.5 from beyond the arc. A state champion as a freshman, she was named the 2025-26 MVP of the Sitka Holiday Invitational and was a 2024-25 First Team All-Conference selection.

An avid hunter and angler, Kronberger has volunteered locally with the Downtown Soup Kitchen. She’s also an active member of Mountain City Christian Church and Youth Group, and has donated her time as community basketball coach. “Keelie is the most consistent player that I’ve seen playing at a high level of competition,” said Jeannie Hebert-Truax, head coach of Wasilla High School. “She scored 34 on us with tremendous defense on her at all times. She is very level-headed and focused on playing both as an individual and as a team player this year.”

Kronberger has maintained a 3.82 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play basketball at Oral Roberts University this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one state winner from each of the 50 states and Washington D.C., in 12 different sports: football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, baseball, softball, boys and girls soccer, and boys and girls track & field. In total, 610 high school athletes are honored each year. From the pool of state winners, one national winner is selected in each of the 12 sports. 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 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 \$6.4 million in grants to winners across more than 2,200 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 Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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