

## **SAGUARO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ARIZONA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 1, 2026) — In its 41<sup>st</sup> year celebrating the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Alain Gomez-Gudiño of Saguario High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Arizona Baseball 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 Gomez-Gudiño as Arizona's best high school baseball player and he joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park, TX), MacKenzie Gore (2016-17, Whiteville High School, NC) and Seth Hernandez (2024-25, Corona High School, CA).

The 6-foot, 215-pound senior catcher led the Sabercats (25-8) to a 4A state championship this past season. Gomez-Gudiño batted .455 with six homers, 35 RBI and a 1.332 OPS, while also throwing out 33.3 percent of attempted base-stealers. The Arizona Baseball Coaches Association's 4A Player of the Year and the 4A state title game MVP, he's ranked as the nation's No. 46 overall prospect in the Class of 2026 by Perfect Game and the No. 224 overall draft prospect by Baseball America.

Gomez-Gudiño has volunteered locally with the Scottsdale Miracle League, which provides children, teens and adults with disabilities or special healthcare needs an outlet to play baseball. "I was very impressed with Gomez-Gudiño" said Jeff Fierro, head coach at Arcadia High School. "He definitely changes the game. Behind the plate, he completely shuts down the run game and deciding how to approach him at the plate is a nightmare."

Gomez-Gudiño has maintained a 3.47 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play baseball at the University of South Carolina.

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](http://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](https://x.com/Gatorade).

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