

**BENTWORTH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE PENNSYLVANIA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE  
YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 5, 2026) — In its 41<sup>st</sup> year celebrating the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Sydney Gonglik of Bentworth High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Pennsylvania Softball 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 Gonglik as Pennsylvania's best high school softball player and she joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Cat Osterman (2000-01, Cypress, TX), Alicia Hollowell (2001-02, Fairfield, CA) and Hannah Wells (2024-25, Coahoma, TX).

At the time of her selection, the 5-foot-8 junior right-handed pitcher, shortstop and first baseman had led the Bearcats to a 22-2 record and a berth in the Class 2A state quarterfinals. Gonglik posted a 19-2 mark in the circle with a 0.89 ERA through 24 games, striking out 261 batters while allowing just 39 hits in 126 innings. She opened the state tournament with a six-inning perfect game, fanning 12 in a 10-0 win over Wilmington High School. Ranked as the nation's No. 9 recruit in the Class of 2027 by Perfect Game, she owned a .529 batting average entering the round of eight with nine home runs, 33 runs scored, 12 stolen bases and a 1.176 slugging percentage.

Gonglik has volunteered locally with Bentworth Blessings, which assembles backpacks filled with nutritious food for students in need to bring home over the weekend. She has also donated her time as a youth softball coach and mentor. "Sydney is the most gifted player that I've had the opportunity to coach at Bentworth," said Jack Cramer, head coach of Bentworth High School. "She has all the skills to play at the next level and be successful there."

Gonglik has maintained a 3.64 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to receive athletic aid to play softball at Louisiana State University beginning in the fall of 2027.

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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