

**CHEYENNE EAST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE
NAMED GATORADE WYOMING SOFTBALL PLAYER OF
THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 5, 2026) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Brooklyn Lake of Cheyenne East High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Wyoming 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 Lake as Wyoming’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).

The junior right-handed pitcher and first baseman led the Thunderbirds (26-9-1) to the Class 4A state championship this past season, marking the program’s first state title. Lake compiled a record of 18-3 in the circle and added a save to go with 163 strikeouts and a state-best 3.33 ERA in 126.1 innings. She also batted .353 with 28 RBI and 18 runs scored.

Lake has volunteered locally at the Cheyenne Frontier Days rodeo, where she assists with sorting steers, opening gates and supporting cowboys during events. She has also donated her time to Meals on Wheels as well as Future Farmers of America. “She understands how to be a leader and has been a great example, not only to her peers, but to all our freshmen and sophomore players,” Cheyenne East High School head coach, Adam Galicia said. “She’s a player who puts in countless hours outside of normal practice to become one of, if not the best pitcher in the state.”

Lake has maintained a 3.19 weighted GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school in the 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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