

LOVELAND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE COLORADO SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 30, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Laurin Krings of Loveland High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Colorado Softball Player of the Year**. Krings is the second Gatorade Colorado Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Loveland High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Krings as Colorado's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Krings joins an elite alumni association of past state softball award-winners, including Catherine Osterman (2000-01, Cy Spring High School, Texas), Kelsey Stewart (2009-10, Arkansas City High School, Kan.), Carley Hoover (2012-13 D.W. Daniel High School, S.C.), Jenna Lilley (2012-13, Hoover High School, Ohio), Morgan Zerkle (2012-13 Cabell Midland High School, W. Va.), and Rachel Garcia (2014-15, Highland High School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-7, junior, right-handed pitcher led the Indians to a 23-5 record and the Class 5A semifinals this past season. Krings compiled a 22-5 record with a 0.65 ERA, along with a .500 batting average, 15 home runs and 48 RBI. She struck out 392 batters in 193 innings, while issuing just 30 walks. The Class 5A Player of the Year, Krings was also named the Front Range League Pitcher and Player of the Year.

Krings has volunteered locally on behalf of food-donation drives and youth softball programs. "Laurin Krings throws pure heat, but with little to no effort," said Bryon Rutherford, head coach at Thompson Valley High. "She's also a beast with the bat. I've been coaching at the high school level and travel softball for over 25 years and I've seen some great players in Colorado ... she's as good or better than all of them."

Krings has maintained a 3.54 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school 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. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Krings joins recent Gatorade Colorado Softball Players of the Year Ali Kilponen (2017-18, Valor Christian High School), Linnie Malkin (2016-17, Broomfield High School), Haley Donaldson (2015-16, Fossil Ridge High School), Savannah Heebner (2014-15, Castle View High School) and Ally Power (2013-14, Ponderosa High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Krings also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of her choosing. She is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

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