

OSHKOSH NORTH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WISCONSIN 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 **Syd Supple of Oshkosh North High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Wisconsin Softball Player of the Year**. Supple is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Oshkosh North 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 Supple as Wisconsin'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, Supple 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 state's two-time returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-10 senior left-handed pitcher led the Spartans to a 26-0 record and a berth in the Division 1, Sectional 4 semifinals at the time of her selection. Supple owned a 24-0 record with a 0.74 ERA through 26 games. She'd fanned 236 batters and allowed just 56 hits and 11 walks in 132 innings pitched. At the plate, Supple posted a .519 batting average with 12 home runs, 48 runs scored, 45 RBI and a 1.148 slugging percentage.

Supple spearheaded a drive to raise almost \$100,000 to build a new softball field in Oshkosh. She has volunteered locally with special-needs students at Oshkosh North High and as a youth softball coach. "Syd has done a great job of mixing up her speeds and controlling opponents' bat speed," said Tim Roehrig, head coach of Kaukauna High. "Her locations have been really good and she always brings the focus needed to be a great pitcher."

Supple has maintained a 3.57 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play softball on scholarship at Northwestern University 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.

Three-time winner Supple joins Gatorade Wisconsin Softball Players of the Year Kayla Konwent (2015-16 & 2014-15, Westosha Central High School), and Abby Klopp (2013-14, Baldwin-Woodville High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Supple 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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