

**PAPILLION-LA VISTA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEBRASKA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 28, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Jordyn Bahl of Papillion-La Vista High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Nebraska Softball Player of the Year. Bahl is the third Gatorade Nebraska Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Papillion-La Vista 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 Bahl as Nebraska'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, Bahl joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, 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-8 junior and right-handed pitcher led the Monarchs to a perfect 36-0 record and the Class A state championship this past season, posting a 27-0 record with a 0.15 ERA. Bahl surrendered just 27 hits and issued 24 walks in 139 innings pitched, while striking out 299 batters. Captain of both the Lincoln Journal Star Super-State team and the Omaha World-Herald All-Nebraska team, she also batted .581 with 59 RBI, tying the Class A single-season record with 22 home runs. Bahl is ranked as the nation's No. 1 recruit in the Class of 2021 by Softball America and Extra Inning Softball.

Bahl has volunteered locally on behalf of Open Door Mission, a food bank, the Salvation Army and youth softball clinics. "Jordyn Bahl doesn't really have a weakness in her game," said Chad Perkins, head coach at Marian High. "She's incredible. She never gets rattled and she just doesn't miss her spots. It would be hard to find anyone better than she is, as a pitcher or a hitter, and she's a heck of a defensive player too."

Bahl has maintained a weighted 4.33 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 and 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.

Bahl joins Gatorade Nebraska Softball Players of the Year Emma Kauf (2018-19, Lincoln Southwest High School), Courtney Wallace (2017-18, Papillion-La Vista High School), Rylie Unzicker (2016-17, Millard South High School), Samantha Dellinger (2015-16, Papillion-La Vista High School), and Erin Lockhart (2014-15, Lincoln Southeast High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

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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