

**WILLIAMSBURG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE OHIO SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 18, 2021) — In its 36<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Madi Ogden of Williamsburg High School** as its **2020-21 Gatorade Ohio Softball Player of the Year**. Ogden is the second Gatorade Ohio Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Williamsburg 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 Ogden as Ohio'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, Ogden joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Cat 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 senior right-handed pitcher compiled a 27-1 record with a 0.04 earned run average this past season, leading the Wildcats (28-1) to a Division III regional championship game. Ogden allowed just 41 hits and 15 walks, amassing 331 strikeouts in 168.2 innings pitched. She allowed one earned run all season, firing 11 no-hitters and three perfect games. At the plate, the two-time First Team All-State selection posted a .527 batting average with six home runs, 41 runs scored, 32 runs batted in and a .849 slugging percentage.

Ogden has volunteered locally as a youth math and reading tutor. She has also donated her time as a youth softball and basketball coach. "Madi pitches so consistently and played a huge role in their success," said Terri Hoerth, head coach of Clermont Northeastern High. "She was so tough to hit off of and never wavered. She was very solid on offense as well."

Ogden has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom and graduated as her school's valedictorian. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at Morehead State University (Ky.) 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. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Ogden joins recent Gatorade Ohio Softball Players of the Year Allison Smith (2019-20, Champion High School), Hope Straight (2018-19, Mount Vernon High School), Megan Turner (2017-18, Champion High School), and Carly Wagers (2016-17, Williamsburg High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Ogden has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Ogden is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

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 [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com), on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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