

**ST. MARY'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MICHIGAN BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 3, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Brock Porter** of **St. Mary's Preparatory School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Michigan Baseball Player of the Year**. Porter is the second Gatorade Michigan Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Mary's Preparatory 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 Porter as Michigan's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Porter joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo High School, Mich.), Jon Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Preparatory School, Wash.), David Price (2003-04, Blackman High School, Tenn.), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas), Rick Porcello (2006-07, Seaton Hall Preparatory School, N.J.) and Kris Bryant (2009-10, Bonanza High School, Nev.).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-4, 215-pound senior right-handed pitcher had led the Eaglets to a 37-0 record, the June 4 district semifinals of the Division 1 state postseason and a No. 1 national ranking by MaxPreps this season. He compiled a 6-0 record on the mound through 37 games with a 0.17 ERA and 87 strikeouts against 17 walks in 42 innings. He also posted a WHIP of 0.476 and held opposing batters to a miniscule .024 average. In 29 at-bats this spring entering the postseason, he hit .517 with 17 RBI, four home runs and an OPS of 1.528. Ranked as the nation's No. 12 prospect in the Class of 2022 by Baseball America and No. 7 by Perfect Game, Porter was a 2021 MLB Player Development Pipeline invitee. Michigan's returning Gatorade Baseball Player of the Year, Porter was also the winning pitcher of the 2019 state title game; he fired a complete-game six-hitter in last year's semifinals, surrendering one run and fanning 12 to help lead St. Mary's to Collegiate Baseball News' No. 1 national ranking in 2021.

A past student council president and vice president at St. Mary's, Porter is an altar server at the Holy Spirit Church and is a student representative for his school with the Michigan High School Athletic Association Student Advisory Committee. He has also volunteered locally on behalf of St. Williams Church and the Miracle League, in addition to donating his time to the Pickens Baseball Academy as well as multiple community service initiatives in association with the National Honor Society. "I've had the pleasure of watching Brock Porter pitch since 2019," said Dan Cimini, head coach at Grosse Pointe Liggett. "We have not seen a pitcher this dominant in Michigan high school baseball in my lifetime. He is a probable Top 10 choice in this year's MLB Draft and he has tremendous athletic ability, but his outstanding character, work ethic, team-first attitude and how hard he competes are the things that set Brock apart from his peers. He's a great teammate and leader on and off the field. His dominance on the mound has been fun to watch and very impressive, but his willingness to do anything to help his team win a baseball game is just as impressive. I feel he's a guy we will be talking about for many years to come."

Porter has maintained a 4.24 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Clemson University this fall, but is projected as an early-round selection in July's Major League Baseball draft.

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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Two-time winner Porter joins recent Gatorade Michigan Baseball Players of the Year Logan Wood (2019-20, St. Mary's Preparatory), Colin Czajkowski (2018-19, Woodhaven High School), and Spencer Schwellenbach (2017-18, Heritage High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the court. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Porter has the opportunity to

award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Porter is also eligible to submit a short 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 \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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