

**BISMARCK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 9, 2022) — In its 37<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Logan Gronberg** of **Bismarck High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade North Dakota Softball Player of the Year**. Gronberg is the first Gatorade North Dakota Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Bismarck 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 Gronberg as North Dakota'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, Gronberg 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 state's 2018-19 and 2019-20 Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-10 senior right-handed pitcher and infielder led the Demons to a 19-8 record and the Class A state championship this past season. Gronberg compiled a 12-1 mark in the circle with a 1.27 earned run average, striking out 80 batters while walking just seven in 77 innings pitched. At the plate, she batted .621 with 49 RBI, a .714 on-base percentage and a 1.017 slugging percentage. She was 2-for-3 with a home run, three RBI and was the winning pitcher in Bismarck's 7-6 victory over Dickinson High in the state championship game.

Gronberg has volunteered locally at Heaven's Helpers Soup Kitchen and as a youth softball coach and umpire. "Logan has been a great softball player that works extremely hard at her craft," said Billy Schmidt, head coach of Bismarck High School. "She popped onto the team as a mature 12-year-old [in seventh grade] and now as a senior, she leads with quite a confidence on and off the field."

Gronberg has maintained a 3.98 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at the University of North Dakota 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Three-time winner Gronberg joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Softball Players of the Year Maddy Zander (2020-21, Century High School) and Jordanne McNeilly (2017-18, Dickinson 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 field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Gronberg 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. Gronberg 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).