

**RIVERTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE UTAH SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 9, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Kaysen Korth** of **Riverton High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Utah Softball Player of the Year**. Korth is the first Gatorade Utah Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Riverton 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 Korth as Utah'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, Korth 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-8 senior right-handed pitcher and third baseman led the Silverwolves to a 28-1 record and a second straight Class 6A state championship this past season. Korth compiled a 24-1 mark in the circle with a 0.55 earned run average. She struck out 274 batters while allowing just 43 hits in 140.1 innings pitched. Korth was 6-0 with a 0.00 ERA in 33 postseason innings to earn her second consecutive 6A playoff MVP award. At the plate, Korth batted .549 with seven home runs, 45 runs batted in and a .987 slugging percentage.

Korth has volunteered locally on behalf of her neighbors, both doing yard work and babysitting. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church youth group. "Kaysen has the entire player package," said Katie Elliott, head coach of Riverton High School. "She is the heart of our offensive lineup, a force on the mound, a defensive weapon, a fast and aggressive base-runner and a valuable team leader."

Korth has maintained a 3.75 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at Weber State 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. 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.

Korth joins recent Gatorade Utah Softball Players of the Year Avery Sapp (2020-21, Spanish Fork High School), Makaiya Gomez (2019-20, Copper Hills High School), Huntyr Ava (2018-19, West High School), and Jordyn Bate (2017-18, Spanish Fork 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, Korth 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. Korth 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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