

**SOUTH BURLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE VERMONT 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 **Emily Borrazzo** of **South Burlington High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Vermont Softball Player of the Year**. Borrazzo is the first Gatorade Vermont Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from South Burlington 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 Borrazzo as Vermont'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, Borrazzo 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.).

At the time of her selection, the 5-foot-7 junior right-handed pitcher had led the Wolves (14-3) to the semifinals of the Div. 1 state tournament. Borrazzo compiled a 10-3 record with a 0.70 ERA in the regular season, striking out 157 batters in 90 innings pitched. A First Team All-Metro selection, she also batted .500 with seven home runs and 23 RBI, amassing an OPS of 1.898.

A devoted member of her church youth group, Borrazzo has donated her time as a math and SAT tutor and has volunteered locally on behalf of food donation drives, student mental health initiatives and youth softball clinics. "Emily Borrazzo can single-handedly win games," said Bruce Garrapy, head coach at Mt. Mansfield High School. "In my opinion, she's the best pitcher in the state and she's also a very good hitter with home run power."

Borrazzo has maintained a 4.26 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 & 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.

Borrazzo joins recent Gatorade Vermont Softball Players of the Year Kelleigh Simpson (2020-21, Lyndon Institute), Meghan Connor (2019-20, Bellows Free Academy), Sarah Harvey (2018-19, Missisquoi Valley Union High School), and Riley Magoon (2017-18, Colchester 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, Borrazzo 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. Borrazzo 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).