

**CHEYENNE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WYOMING 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 **Brogan Allen** of **Cheyenne Central High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Wyoming Softball Player of the Year**. Allen is the first Gatorade Wyoming Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Cheyenne Central 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 Allen as Wyoming'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, Allen 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-9 senior right-handed pitcher, third baseman and shortstop batted a .533 led the state with both 10 home runs and 43 runs batted in this past season, leading the Indians (19-9) to the Class 4A state championship game. Allen, who will represent Wyoming on a softball trip to Europe this summer with USA Athletes International, also scored 39 runs, compiling a .625 on-base percentage and a 1.111 slugging percentage.

Allen has volunteered locally with the Cheyenne Day of Giving, providing items to those who are less fortunate. She has also donated her time as a youth softball and basketball coach. "Brogan was a strong defensive and offensive player, but also a player (who demonstrated) true grace and sportsmanship," said Jodie Fitzwater, head coach of Wheatland High School. "She truly is a player to see in action. Pitchers knew not to give her anything remotely close unless they had to because she could take a so-so pitch and connect hard."

Allen has maintained a weighted 3.89 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at Dawson Community College (Mont.) 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.

Allen is the first winner of the Gatorade Wyoming Softball Player of the Year.

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, Allen 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. Allen 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.