

**MIDDLETON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE IDAHO BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 2, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Robert Orloski** of **Middleton High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Idaho Baseball Player of the Year**. Orloski is the first Gatorade Idaho Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Middleton 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 Orloski as Idaho'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, Orloski joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Jackson Holliday (2021-22, Stillwater High School, Okla.), Bobby Witt Jr. (2018-19, Colleyville Heritage High School, Texas), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo High School, Mich.).

The 6-foot-2, 185-pound senior right-handed pitcher and infielder/outfielder posted a 7-1 record on the mound with a 1.38 ERA and 92 strikeouts against just 19 walks in 56 innings pitched, leading the Vikings to a 23-7 record and a fourth-place finish in Idaho's 5A state tournament. The state's No. 1 rated prospect in the Class of 2023 according to Perfect Game, Orloski hit .480 with two homers, 24 RBI, 46 runs and a 1.303 OPS. He also stole 43 bases, the state's third-highest total this spring.

Orloski has volunteered locally with the Idaho Foodbank and on behalf of the Mile Marker Home, a non-profit that helps young adults in foster care find long-term housing. "Orloski is the best player in Idaho," said Post Falls High School coach Kurt Reese. "He's the total package and seems to be able to do anything. There have been other good pitchers and or position players, but I can't think of one as dominant as Orloski, who does both."

Orloski has maintained a 3.82 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Texas at San Antonio 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.

Orloski joins recent Gatorade Idaho Baseball Players of the Year Merit Jones (2021-22, Idaho Falls High School), Jaxon Sorenson (2020-21, Idaho Falls High School), Magnum Hofstetter (2019-20, Twin Falls High School), and Gabe Hughes (2018-19, Rocky Mountain High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

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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