

**MONSIGNOR BONNER & ARCHBISHOP PRENDERGAST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE
NAMED
GATORADE PENNSYLVANIA 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 **Kevin McGonigle** of **Monsignor Bonner & Archbishop Prendergast Catholic High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Pennsylvania Baseball Player of the Year**. McGonigle is the first Gatorade Pennsylvania Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Monsignor Bonner & Archbishop Prendergast Catholic 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 McGonigle as Pennsylvania'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, McGonigle 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.).

At the time of his selection, the 5-foot-11, 190-pound senior shortstop had led the Friars to a 14-7 record and a berth in the Class 5A state tournament. McGonigle batted .474 with four home runs, 16 RBI and 29 runs scored through 21 games. Ranked as the nation's No. 7 prospect in the Class of 2023 by Perfect Game, he walked 28 times while striking out just once in 76 plate appearances. The 2022 Delaware County Player of the Year, he also swiped 12 bases, posting an on-base percentage of .647 and an .894 slugging percentage.

McGonigle has volunteered locally on behalf of a youth baseball clinic in association with Drexel Hill Little League and has donated his time with the YMCA of Upper Darby by distributing food to the underprivileged. "I really can't say enough good things about Kevin," said Jim DiGiuseppe, head coach at Archbishop Wood High School. "I say that from both aspects. In terms of baseball, his play clearly speaks for itself and he's certainly deserving of the award. It's important to point out other aspects as a person, like how genuine he is. Both those aspects go hand in hand and Kevin is more than deserving."

McGonigle has maintained a 92.5 average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Auburn University this fall, but is projected as an early round selection in July's Major League Baseball draft.

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.

McGonigle joins recent Gatorade Pennsylvania Baseball Players of the Year Paxton Kling (2021-22, Central High School), Benny Montgomery (2020-21, Red Land High School), Nick Bitsko (2019-20, Central Bucks East High School), and Chris Newell (2018-19, Malvern Preparatory 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.