

**CLOVIS NORTH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE CALIFORNIA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 9, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Ryan Maddox** of **Clovis North High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade California Softball Player of the Year**. Maddox is the first Gatorade California Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Clovis North 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 Maddox as California'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, Maddox joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Jordyn Bahl (2020-21, Papillion-La Vista High School, Neb.), Megan Faraimo (2017-18, Cathedral Catholic High School, Calif.), Rachel Garcia (2014-15, Highland High School, Calif.) and Cat Osterman (2000-01, Cypress Springs High School, Texas).

The 5-foot-3 senior left-handed pitcher compiled a 21-1 record with a 0.64 earned run average this past season, leading the Broncos (24-2-1) to the Central Section, Division I Tournament quarterfinals. Maddox struck out 281 batters in 152 innings while allowing just 65 hits and 22 walks. Ranked as the nation's No. 3 prospect in the Class of 2023 by MaxPreps.com, she posted a .420 batting average with 28 runs scored, 13 extra-base hits and a .625 slugging percentage.

A four-year member of the Clovis North Athletic Leadership Council, Maddox has volunteered locally at a homeless shelter. She has also donated her time to multiple community service activities through ASSISTEENS League of Fresno, a group that trains teenagers in philanthropic work, fundraising and leadership skills. "Ryan is a special athlete and has a competitive fire that is tough to match," said Mike Noel, head coach of Clovis High School. "One of the things that makes Ryan so good is her ability to fight. Whether it's in the circle or at the plate, Ryan doesn't need her 'A' game—although she's rarely without it—to succeed and lead her team."

Maddox has maintained a weighted 3.96 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at the University of Arizona 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.

Maddox joins recent Gatorade California Softball Players of the Year Micaela Kastor (2021-22, Oaks Christian School), Sydney Somerndike (2020-21, Villa Park High School), Tiare Jennings (2019-20, St. Anthony High School), and Nicole May (2018-19, Foothill 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.