

**ROSEMOUNT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE MINNESOTA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 9, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jessa Snippes** of **Rosemount High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Minnesota Softball Player of the Year**. Snippes is the first Gatorade Minnesota Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Rosemount 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 Snippes as Minnesota'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, Snippes 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 Spring High School, Texas).

At the time of her selection, the 5-foot-10 senior right-handed pitcher had led the Irish to a 23-0 record and a berth in the Class AAAA state tournament quarterfinals. Snippes compiled a 18-0 mark in the circle with a 1.27 ERA, striking out 185 batters in 115.2 innings through 23 games. At the plate, she'd batted .627 with 11 doubles, 41 RBI and a .970 slugging percentage entering the postseason round of eight.

Also captain of the Rosemount High School girls ice hockey team, Snippes has volunteered locally with Feed My Starving Children and Hockey Fights Cancer. She has also donated her time as a youth softball coach and as an elementary school book fair volunteer. "Jessa is a threat on the mound and at the plate," said Sydney Dwyer, head coach of Eastview High School. "You have to try to beat her on both sides of the ball, which is an extremely hard task. The type of season that they are having doesn't happen unless you have competitors like Jessa in the lineup."

Snippes has maintained a 3.92 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play softball on scholarship at the University of Minnesota 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.

Snippes joins recent Gatorade Minnesota Softball Players of the Year Sydney Schwartz (2021-22 & 2020-21, Chanhassen High School), Allison Benning (2019-20, Stillwater Area High School), and Ava Dueck (2018-19, Maple Grove Senior 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](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).