

**SOUTH BURLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE VERMONT 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 **Emily Borrazzo** of **South Burlington High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Vermont Softball Player of the Year**. Borrazzo is the first Gatorade Vermont Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from South Burlington 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 Borrazzo as Vermont'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, Borrazzo 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-7 senior right-handed pitcher led the Wolves (10-6) to a berth in the Division I state tournament. Borrazzo compiled a 10-5 record through 15 games with a 0.94 ERA in 97 innings pitched, striking out 164 batters and issuing just 16 walks. She also batted .571 with four home runs and 16 RBI, scoring 26 runs and posting a 1.819 OPS. Borrazzo drew 27 walks, striking out only once. She's also the state's returning Gatorade Softball Player of the Year.

Borrazzo has volunteered locally as the vice president of South Burlington's Coalition of Community Service and as a member of her school's Green Team focused on environmental issues and sustainability. She has also donated her time on behalf of her church youth group and as a peer tutor. "Borrazzo is a dominant player who excels in the circle, defends her position as well as anyone in the state and she's an elite hitter," said Missisquoi Valley Union High School head coach Bill Sheets. "She has the extremely rare gift of owning game-changing impact, both offensively and defensively. Most importantly, she's hard-working, dedicated, respectful and one of the nicest people you could have the pleasure of knowing."

Borrazzo has maintained a 4.25 GPA in the classroom. She will attend Williams College this fall, where she will play softball.

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.

Two-time winner Borrazzo joins recent Gatorade Vermont Softball Players of the Year Kelleigh Simpson (2020-21, Lyndon Institute), Meghan Connor (2019-20, Bellows Free Academy), and Sarah Harvey (2018-19, Missisquoi Valley Union 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.