

**WINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WEST VIRGINIA 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 **Maci Boggess** of **Winfield High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade West Virginia Softball Player of the Year**. Boggess is the first Gatorade West Virginia Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Winfield 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 Boggess as West Virginia'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, Boggess 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-8 senior right-handed pitcher led the Generals to a 33-4 record and the Class AA state championship this past season. Boggess posted a record of 20-0 in the circle and an ERA of 0.538 while striking out 185 batters. She also batted .342, including 15 extra-base hits, and drove in 38 runs.

Boggess has volunteered locally with several youth softball camps and Little League programs. She has also donated her time to multiple charity initiatives through the Winfield softball program. "She's always very focused and prepared," said Hurricane High head coach Meghan Stevens. "She has a variety of pitches and keeps the batters off balance. She never gets rattled and is very businesslike in her approach. She (induces contact) that supplies her defense with batted balls they can make plays on and she's always communicating with her team. She is also dangerous at the plate and has a lot of pop."

Boggess has maintained a 4.19 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at Youngstown State University beginning 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.

Boggess joins recent Gatorade West Virginia Softball Players of the Year Josie Bird (2021-22, Lincoln County High School), Tayven Stephenson (2020-21, St. Albans High School), Delani Buckner (2019-20, Herbert Hoover High School), and Caiti Mathes (2018-19, Hurricane 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.