

**HAGERTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE FLORIDA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 3, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Talan Bell** of **Hagerty High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Florida Baseball Player of the Year**. Bell is the second Gatorade Florida Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Hagerty High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation's top high school athletes for excellence on the field, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Bell as Florida's best high school baseball player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Gary Sheffield (1985-86, Hillsborough High School, Fla.), Alex Rodriguez (1992-93, Westminster Christian School, Fla.), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Max Clark (2022-23, 2021-22 & 2020-21, Franklin Community High School, Ind.).

The 5-foot-11, 175-pound senior left-handed pitcher, outfielder and first baseman compiled a 7-1 record on the mound with a 0.99 ERA and 77 strikeouts in 49.1 innings this past season, leading the Huskies to a 20-9 record and a berth in the Class 6A regional final. Ranked as the state's No. 6 prospect in the Class of 2024 by Perfect Game, Bell held opposing hitters to a .151 batting average and also hit .346 at the plate with three home runs, 25 RBI, 18 runs scored and a 1.022 OPS.

A member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Bell has also volunteered locally on behalf of the Little League Challenger Division, an adaptive baseball program for individuals with physical and intellectual challenges. "Talan Bell is one of the best players I have ever seen compete on a baseball field," said Michael Sindone, head coach at Hagerty High School. "He's the new standard for a student-athlete. He does everything you could ask of a player and is everything you want in a leader."

Bell has maintained a 3.13 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Clemson University this fall, but is projected as an early round selection in July's Major League Baseball First Year Player 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.

Bell joins recent Gatorade Florida Baseball Players of the Year Arjun Nimmala (2022-23, Strawberry Crest High School), Roman Anthony (2021-22, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School), Andrew Painter (2020-21, Calvary Christian Academy) and Zac Veen (2019-20, Spruce Creek High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$4.9 million in grants to winners across more than 1,900 organizations.

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 X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).

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