

**GRETNA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEBRASKA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 7, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Alexis Jensen** of **Gretna High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Nebraska Softball Player of the Year**. Jensen is the first Gatorade Nebraska Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Gretna 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 Jensen as Nebraska’s best high school softball 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 Amanda Freed (1997-98, Pacifica High School, Calif.), Cat Osterman (2000-01, Cypress Springs High School, Texas), Rachel Garcia (2014-15 & 2012-13, Highland High School, Calif.) and Ava Brown (2022-23 & 2021-22, Lake Creek High School, Texas).

The 5-foot-9 junior left-handed pitcher led the Dragons to a 32-4 record and a berth in the Class A state semifinals this past season. Jensen compiled a 24-3 record in the circle with a 1.31 ERA, surrendering just 78 hits in 134 innings pitched while striking out 264 batters. She also batted .494 with seven home runs, 34 RBI and a 1.452 OPS. She was named captain of the Omaha World-Herald’s 2023 All-Nebraska softball team and was also a Lincoln Journal Star First Team All-Super State honoree.

Jensen has volunteered locally with the Nebraska Food Bank and Open Door Mission’s Lydia House, which provides help for people dealing with domestic abuse. She has also donated her time to the Heartland Hope Mission, which provides food, clothing and other basic staples to families in need. “To me, there’s a lot more than just pure talent that goes into being a great softball player,” said Derek Siedschlag, head coach at Norfolk High School. “Alexis is a great player and, from what I hear, she’s a great teammate and role model. She is as fiery and competitive as they get. She’s a phenomenal pitcher and great hitter as well.”

Jensen has maintained a 3.46 GPA in the classroom. She has verbally committed to play softball on scholarship at the University of Nebraska in the fall of 2025.

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.

Jensen joins recent Gatorade Nebraska Softball Players of the Year Maddia Groff (2022-23, Marian High School), Ruby Meylan (2021-22, Skutt Catholic High School) and Jordyn Bahl (2020-21 & 2019-20, Papillion-La Vista 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.