

MINOT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 3, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Kellan Burke of Minot High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Player of the Year.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their success on the field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Burke as North Dakota's best high school baseball player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Gary Sheffield (1985-86, Hillsborough High School, Florida), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Konnor Griffin (2023-24, Jackson Preparatory School, Mississippi).

At the time of his selection, the 5-foot-11, 185-pound senior catcher and outfielder had led the Magicians to a 21-7 record and a berth in the Class A state tournament. Burke batted .557 with three home runs, 27 RBI and 33 runs scored, posting a .674 on-base percentage, 1.057 slugging percentage and 1.731 OPS through 25 games. He also recorded 10 stolen bases and threw out nearly 54 percent of would-be base-stealers from behind the plate. A two-time All-State selection, he's ranked as the No. 7 overall prospect in the Dakotas in the Class of 2025 Prep Baseball. He was also named MVP of the 2023 Class A state championship football game.

Burke has volunteered locally with the Magic City Day of Giving in addition to serving as a youth baseball coach and instructor. "Burke can dominate a game in many ways," said Williston High School head coach Aaron Finders. "He's the best hitter on his team and in our league. He runs the bases with speed and instincts. Burke controls the game with his catching skills, blocking balls to not give up extra bases, and he throws extremely well from behind the plate. He's done all of this in the Western Dakota Association since he was an eighth grader."

Burke has maintained a 3.78 weighted GPA in the classroom. He will attend Cloud County Community College this fall, where he will play baseball.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports - 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.

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 \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 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 Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade, Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.