

## SUNSET HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE OREGON BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (June 3, 2025) — In its 40<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Kruz Schoolcraft of Sunset High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Oregon 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 Schoolcraft as Oregon'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 6-foot-8, 230-pound senior left-handed pitcher and first baseman had led the Apollos (18-9) to the second round of the Class 6A postseason tournament. Schoolcraft owned a 5-0 record on the mound along with a 0.525 ERA and 82 strikeouts in 40 innings through 27 games. He averaged two strikeouts per inning and compiled a WHIP of 0.700. At the plate, he hit .521 entering the state round of 16 with 10 home runs, 30 RBI and 26 runs scored. He posted a .657 OBP and an OPS of 1.657. Ranked as the nation's No. 4 prospect in his class by Baseball America, he is also the state's returning Gatorade Baseball Player of the Year.

Schoolcraft has volunteered locally on behalf of HOPE (Honoring Our Precious Elderly) and Legacy Emanuel Children's Hospital in addition to donating his time to Sunset High Youth Baseball camps as well as to a variety of community service projects undertaken by the team. "Kruz Schoolcraft is a unique talent whose size and two-way ability put him in a very small group of players," said Carlos Collazo, a national writer for Baseball America. "The ease with which he's able to generate upper-90s velocity as a left-handed high schooler puts him among the hardest throwers we've ever seen from that demographic. If he weren't a pitcher, he'd be a legitimate draft prospect as a hitter thanks to his 'plus' raw power. Considering he reclassified from originally being a 2026 graduate, that makes all of his accomplishments even more impressive."

Schoolcraft has maintained a 3.9 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play baseball at the University of Tennessee this fall, but is projected as a first 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 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](https://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).