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**WINDHAM HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEW HAMPSHIRE SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 2, 2016) — In its 31st year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Jaime Cleasby of Windham High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade New Hampshire Softball Player of the Year. Cleasby is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Windham 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 Cleasby as New Hampshire's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Cleasby joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Alicia Hollowell (2000-01, Fairfield HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Angela Tincher (2002-03, James River HS, Va.) and Kenzie Fowler (2006-07, Canyon del Oro HS, Ariz.).

The 5-foot-4 senior right-handed pitcher and third baseman has led the Jaguars to a 17-0 record and a berth in the Division II state tournament, scheduled to begin June 2. Cleasby posted a 10-0 record on the mound with a 0.57 ERA and 147 strikeouts, issuing just 10 walks in 73 innings. A First Team All-State selection, she has also batted .302 with 13 RBI entering the postseason.

Cleasby has maintained a 3.93 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter and as a youth softball coach.

"Jaime Cleasby has always been a challenge to solve when she has pitched against us," said Jay Brewster, head coach at Trinity High. "She has really reached the top of her game this year and is performing at a level higher than anyone else in our division. She is leading Windham to a special season and I am looking forward to seeing her graduate."

Cleasby will attend Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute this fall, where she will play softball.

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 high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](#), which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Cleasby joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Softball Players of the Year Kaycee Carbone (2014-15, Alvirne High School), Erika Millett (2013-14, White Mountains Regional High School), Katelyn Kennard (2012-13, Concord High School), Taylor Carbone (2011-12 & 2010-11, Alvirne High School), Kelsey Martel, (2009-10, Concord High School), Paige Hansen (2008-09, Concord High School), and Amanda Barton (2007-08 & 2006-07, Franklin High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit www.gatorade.com/poy.

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