

MISSISQUOI VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE VERMONT SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 30, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Sarah Harvey of Missisquoi Valley Union High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Vermont Softball Player of the Year**. Harvey is the second Gatorade Vermont Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Missisquoi Valley Union 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 Harvey as Vermont's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Harvey joins an elite alumni association of past state softball award-winners, including Catherine Osterman (2000-01, Cy Spring High School, Texas), Kelsey Stewart (2009-10, Arkansas City High School, Kan.), Carley Hoover (2012-13 D.W. Daniel High School, S.C.), Jenna Lilley (2012-13, Hoover High School, Ohio), Morgan Zerkle (2012-13 Cabell Midland High School, W. Va.), and Rachel Garcia (2014-15, Highland High School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-9 senior right-handed pitcher and shortstop led the Thunderbirds to a 15-1 record at the time of her selection. Harvey compiled a 5-1 record with a 1.30 ERA in the regular season, along with a .696 batting average, 11 home runs and 51 RBI. She posted a slugging percentage of 1.607.

Harvey has raised funds for students stricken with childhood diseases and has volunteered locally on behalf of youth sports programs. "Sarah Harvey is one of the best hitters, if not the best hitter in the state," said Bert Berthiaume, head coach at BFA-St. Albans High. "When you combine that with her efforts on the mound, she's the complete package."

Harvey has maintained a 3.98 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at Kutztown University beginning this fall.

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. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Harvey joins recent Gatorade Vermont Softball Players of the Year Riley Magoon (2017-18, Colchester High School), Payton Buxton (2016-17, Middlebury Union High School), Allison Rutz (2015-16, Essex High School), Baylee Ports (2014-15, Mount Anthony Union High School) and Kayla Mathieu (2013-14, Bellows Free Academy-Fairfax) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Harvey also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of her choosing. She is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

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