

**SCARBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MAINE SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 28, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Bella Dickinson of Scarborough High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Maine Softball Player of the Year. Dickinson is the second Gatorade Maine Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Scarborough 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 Dickinson as Maine'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, Dickinson joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, 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-4 senior, right-handed pitcher and shortstop was named a PGF Northeast Region All-American in 2020. Dickinson led the Red Storm to a combined 60-0 record and three state championships in her varsity career, posting a 25-0 record in the circle with a 1.04 ERA. She also batted .476 with 12 home runs and 80 RBI as a prep player. The Varsity Maine Player of the Year and the SMAA Pitcher of the Year in 2019, she recorded a 14-0 record with a 1.05 ERA and 143 strikeouts in 94 innings pitched as a junior, batting .471 with six home runs and 26 RBI.

Also a basketball standout, Dickinson has volunteered locally on behalf of Ruth's Reusable Resources as well as youth sports programs. "I would put Bella Dickinson at the top of my list as the most talented softball player I've ever coached," said Scarborough coach Tom Griffin. "She has great work ethic, character and intelligence, and she's a fierce competitor, but always in control of her emotions."

Dickinson has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball at the University of Southern New Hampshire.

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 and 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.

Dickinson joins Gatorade Maine Softball Players of the Year Abby Orso (2018-19, York High School), Grace McGouldrick (2017-18, Gorham High School), Jessica Brown (2016-17, Portland High School), Kirsten Pelletier (2015-16, Messalonskee High School), and Jen Jones (2014-15, Sanford High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

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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