ROGERS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WASHINGTON 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 Raigan Barrett of Rogers High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Washington Softball Player of the Year. Barrett is the first Gatorade Washington Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Rogers 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 Barrett as Washington'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, Barrett 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 shortstop and third baseman was named the best player in the state by MaxPreps.com during the 2020 preseason. Barrett was the starting shortstop for the Georgia Impact in club play, leading the squad to runners-up status at the 18U PGF National Championships Premier Division last July. Invited to try out for the USA Softball Junior Women's National Team last summer, Barrett was a Scorebook Live Preseason First Team All-State selection this spring. She concluded her prep softball career with a .542 batting average, 127 runs scored, 111 RBI, 22 home runs and a 1.038 slugging percentage.

Barrett has volunteered locally with Feed My Starving Children and the Special Olympics, and she has donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church. "Raigan's accolades are the result of an unwavering commitment to a game she dearly loves," said Jacy Ramsey, head coach of Rogers High School. "She is willing to fill any need asked of her. Her work ethic is next to none."

Barrett has maintained a 3.91 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play softball on scholarship at the University of Washington.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Barrett joins Gatorade Washington Softball Players of the Year Iyanla De Jesus (2018-19, Jackson High School), Brooke Nelson (2017-18, Bonney Lake High School), Taylor Rhinehart (2016-17, Woodinville High School), Maggie Gallagher (2015-16, Kennedy Catholic High School), and Quinn Breidenbach (2014-15, Enumclaw 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 <u>www.Gatorade.com/POY</u>, on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> or follow us on Twitter at <u>www.twitter.com/Gatorade</u>.