

**DELAWARE MILITARY ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE DELAWARE SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 18, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Graceyn Frost of Delaware Military Academy** as its **2020-21 Gatorade Delaware Softball Player of the Year**. Frost is the first Gatorade Delaware Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Delaware Military Academy.

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 Frost as Delaware'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, Frost joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Cat 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-11 senior left-handed pitcher led the Seahawks (18-3) to the state semifinals this past season. Frost posted an 18-2 record with a 0.28 ERA, surrendering just 26 hits and 23 walks in 126 innings, while striking out 268. The Delaware State Coaches Association Player of the Year, she is a three-time First Team All-State selection. Frost is ranked as the nation's No. 80 prospect in the Class of 2021 by Extra Inning Softball.

Frost has served as an elementary school tutor and has volunteered locally on behalf of a food bank, Meals on Wheels and youth sports programs. "Graceyn Frost displayed the best command of any pitcher I've seen in Delaware in the last three to four years," said Wayne Massey, head coach at Delmar High. "She throws several pitches, has good velocity and really good control. She's very poised and has a great softball IQ for pitching."

Frost has maintained a 3.75 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at the University of Delaware 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. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Frost joins recent Gatorade Delaware Softball Players of the Year Tayler Vitola (2019-20 & 2018-19, Appoquinimink High School), Nicole Marcon (2017-18, Caravel Academy), and Avery Wheatley (2016-17, Delmar High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Frost has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Frost is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

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 playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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