MARET SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 9, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Caroline Roy** of **Maret School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade District of Columbia Softball Player of the Year**. Roy is the second Gatorade District of Columbia Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Maret 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 Roy as District of Columbia'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, Roy 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-10 junior right-handed pitcher led the Frogs (16-1) to the D.C. State Athletic Association championship this past season. The District's returning Gatorade Softball Player of the Year, Roy posted a 16-1 record with a 2.85 ERA, striking out 136 batters in 91 innings pitched. She also batted .655 with nine home runs, 24 RBI and an OPS of 2.090. She was named MVP of the championship game for the second consecutive season.

Leader of a school anti-racism initiative, Roy has volunteered locally feeding the homeless. "C.J. Roy was pretty dominant in the circle and she hits the ball really well," said Chris Murray, head coach at Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart. "Of all the players we saw in D.C., she is the one who stood out."

Roy has maintained a 3.63 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school this fall.

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 & 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Two-time winner Roy joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Softball Players of the Year JoJo Scurry (2019-20, Wilson High School), Jamie Wang (2018-19, National Cathedral School), and Logan Robinson (2017-18, National Cathedral School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Roy has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Roy is also eligible to submit a short 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 \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.