

**WETUMPKA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE ALABAMA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 9, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Mya Holt** of **Wetumpka High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Alabama Softball Player of the Year**. Holt is the first Gatorade Alabama Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Wetumpka 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 Holt as Alabama'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, Holt joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Jordyn Bahl (2020-21, Papillion-La Vista High School, Neb.), Megan Faraimo (2017-18, Cathedral Catholic High School, Calif.), Rachel Garcia (2014-15, Highland High School, Calif.) and Cat Osterman (2000-01, Cypress Springs High School, Texas).

The 5-foot-7 junior right-handed pitcher and outfielder led the Indians (56-6-1) to a 6A state championship this past season. Holt compiled a 37-2 record with a 0.75 ERA, striking out 223 batters over 215.2 innings while posting a 0.683 WHIP. Holt also batted .512 with 22 home runs, 96 RBI and a 1.690 OPS, sparking the program to just its second state title in school history. She's ranked as the nation's No. 50 prospect in the Class of 2024 by Extra Innings.

A member of the National Honor Society, Holt has volunteered locally with the Montgomery Food Bank, Read Across America, the Salvation Army and as part of tornado relief efforts. "Holt is the best player in the state," said Central-Phenix City High School head coach Mitchell Holt. "She completely changes the game when she comes to the plate and she carries them in the circle, too. That's what makes her the best player."

Holt has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has verbally committed to play softball on scholarship at Troy University in the fall of 2024.

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

Holt joins recent Gatorade Alabama Softball Players of the Year Larissa Preuit (2021-22, Hartselle High School), Annabelle Widra (2020-21, Spain Park High School), Shelby Lowe (2019-20, Pickens Academy), and Kaylyn Dismukes (2018-19, Holtville High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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