

**NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MASSACHUSETTS SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 9, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Kelly Colleran** of **North Attleborough High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Massachusetts Softball Player of the Year**. Colleran is the second Gatorade Massachusetts Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from North Attleborough 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 Colleran as Massachusetts' best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Colleran 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 Spring High School, Texas).

At the time of her selection, the 5-foot-4 senior right-handed pitcher had led the Rocketeers (16-5) to the round of 16 in the Division II state tournament. Colleran compiled a 15-3 record through 20 games this season with a 0.33 ERA in 126.2 innings pitched, striking out 306 batters compared to just nine walks while posting a 0.395 WHIP. She also batted .552 with 13 home runs, 27 RBI and 32 runs scored, posting a 2.007 OPS. She fired two perfect games this spring and was named the 2023 Hockomock League MVP.

A member of the National Honor Society, Colleran has volunteered locally raising money for cancer research in addition to donating her time at a local food pantry and with the Special Olympics. "She carries that team offensively and defensively," said Attleborough High School head coach Mark Homer. "She's a leader by example on and off the field. She is the real deal, loves being in that spot and is very humble."

Colleran has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at Boston University 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Colleran joins recent Gatorade Massachusetts Softball Players of the Year Giana LaCedra (2021-22, 2020-21, 2019-20, & 2018-19, Lowell 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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