

**GLACIER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MONTANA 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 **Ella Farrell** of **Glacier High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Montana Softball Player of the Year**. Farrell is the second Gatorade Montana Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Glacier 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 Farrell as Montana'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, Farrell 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-11 junior right-handed pitcher and infielder led the Wolfpack to a 20-3 record and the Class AA state championship this past season. Farrell batted .486 with 42 RBI and seven home runs, two of which were grand slams. In the circle, the First Team All-State selection posted a record of 12-2 with a 2.30 ERA and 124 strikeouts.

A member of the National Honor Society and Spanish National Honor Society, Farrell has earned the Montana Seal of Bilingual Proficiency. She has volunteered locally at an elementary school, helping students with reading and art projects. She also has donated her time as a mentor for Glacier High freshman at the beginning of the school year. "Ella brings a lot to the table," said Butte High School head coach Ryan Stosich. "Her velocity and ability to hit spots is very tough on hitters. At the plate, she can hit to all areas of the field and adjust to offspeed pitches."

Farrell has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her senior year of high school 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.

Farrell joins recent Gatorade Montana Softball Players of the Year Kennedy Venner (2021-22, Billings Senior High School), Kynzie Mohl (2020-21, Glacier High School), and Anna Toon (2019-20 & 2018-19, Great Falls 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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