

**CONCORD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 **Sarah Taylor** of **Concord High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade New Hampshire Softball Player of the Year**. Taylor is the fifth Gatorade New Hampshire Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Concord 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 Taylor as New Hampshire'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, Taylor 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).

At the time of her selection, the 5-foot-7 junior right-handed pitcher and third baseman had led the Crimson Tide (18-1) to a berth in New Hampshire's Division I postseason semifinals this season. Taylor batted .545 with three home runs and 37 RBI through 18 games, compiling a 1.442 OPS. She also posted an 8-0 record on the mound with a 0.76 ERA in 46 innings, striking out 92 batters compared to just 10 walks. She is a Division I First Team All-State selection and was named the New Hampshire Union Leader's Athlete of the Month for May.

A member of the Concord High School Key Club service group, Taylor has also volunteered locally as both a pitching and hitting instructor for youth softball leagues. "Taylor's hitting ability is excellent and she is clutch in the situations that I've seen," said Pinkerton Academy head coach Tom Wall. "Her bat is available for every game, even if she's not pitching."

Taylor has maintained an A average in the classroom. She is verbally committed to playing softball on scholarship at Stonehill College beginning 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.

Taylor joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Softball Players of the Year Kristen Beebe (2021-22, Exeter High School), Nicole Basil (2020-21, Winnacunnet High School), Sam Wiberg (2019-20, Exeter High School), and Madison Labrie (2018-19, Mascenic Regional 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).