

**ALLEGANY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE MARYLAND SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 7, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Abi Britton** of **Allegany High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Maryland Softball Player of the Year**. Britton is the first Gatorade Maryland Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Allegany High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation's top high school athletes for excellence on the field, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Britton as Maryland's best high school softball player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Amanda Freed (1997-98, Pacifica High School, Calif.), Cat Osterman (2000-01, Cypress Springs High School, Texas), Rachel Garcia (2014-15 & 2012-13, Highland High School, Calif.) and Ava Brown (2022-23 & 2021-22, Lake Creek High School, Texas).

The 5-foot-10 senior right-handed pitcher led the Campers to a 20-0 record and a Class 1A state championship this past season. Britton compiled an 18-0 record in the circle with a 0.07 ERA, allowing just one earned run all season. She struck out 252 batters against just 26 walks, threw four perfect games and 12 complete-game shutouts. Britton also batted .590 with 10 home runs and 32 RBI, compiling a .658 on-base percentage and an OPS of 1.920. Ranked as the nation's No. 60 player in the Class of 2024 by Extra Innings Softball, she is a two-time state champion.

A National Honor Society member, Britton has volunteered locally with the Future Farmers of America. She has also participated in student government. "We faced Abi in the state semifinals and she was excellent," said Kory Shiles, head coach at Mardela High School. "She allowed six hits and struck out 12 in a 1-0 victory. I'm pretty sure that's the fewest number of strikeouts she recorded the entire season in a complete game, which is pretty impressive. She's the best pitcher in the state and her offensive numbers would put her up there, too."

Britton has maintained a 4.18 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at Penn State 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.

Britton joins recent Gatorade Maryland Softball Players of the Year Delaney Reefer (2022-23, Urbana High School), Madison Knight (2021-22 & 2020-21, Patterson Mill High School) and Maddie Penta (2019-20, Bohemia Manor High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$4.9 million in grants to winners across more than 1,900 organizations.

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 X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).