BEND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE OREGON SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 7, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Addisen Fisher** of **Bend High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Oregon Softball Player of the Year**. Fisher is the first Gatorade Oregon Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Bend 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 Fisher as Oregon'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-11 senior right-handed pitcher and outfielder led the Lava Bears (23-6) to the Class 5A state title this past season. Fisher compiled a 20-2 record in the circle with two saves to go with a 0.36 ERA, 10 shutouts, five no-hitters and four perfect games. She struck out 261 batters and walked just 18 in 134.2 innings, averaging 1.9 Ks per inning. Opposing hitters batted .092 against her and her FIP was .198. Ranked as the nation's No. 1 prospect in her class by both Softball America and Perfect Game, she also hit .667 with 17 home runs to go with 40 RBI, 54 runs and 18 steals in as many attempts. A former two-time Gatorade State Player of the Year (2020-22), she recorded an on-base percentage of .767 and slugged 1.583 en route to an OPS of 2.350.

A Deschutes National Forest wildland fire prevention volunteer, she has also donated her time on behalf of the Red Cross and as a peer tutor. She also mentors intellectually and physically challenged students in life skills. A member of WEB, an orientation program for middle school students, she's served as an instructor and coach with Bend North Little League. As part of her duties in the National Honor Society, she has organized food and blood-donation drives at her school. "Addisen Fisher is not only a dominating force on the mound, but one of the best hitters we've faced this season," said Stacy Cox, head coach at Summit High School. "If you choose to pitch to the talented senior, you risk watching the softball leave the park within seconds, and any pitch (location) is fair game. On the mound, she is near perfection with speeds reaching 70 and a changeup that will stop you in your tracks. Such a talented player with a very bright future."

Fisher has maintained a 4.13 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at UCLA this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Three-time winner Fisher joins recent Gatorade Oregon Softball Players of the Year Payton Burnham (2022-23, Sheldon High School) and Taylor Ebbs (2019-20, McNary 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 studentathletes, visit <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u>, Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u> and X(Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.