KATY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE TEXAS 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 **Cameryn Harrison** of **Katy High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Texas Softball Player of the Year**. Harrison is the second Gatorade Texas Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Katy 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 Harrison as Texas' 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 led the Tigers (39-3-1) to a 16-0 record in 6A Region III-District 19 and a berth in the regional championship series this past season. Harrison compiled a 22-1 record with a 0.53 ERA and 232 strikeouts in 119.1 innings pitched, averaging 1.94 strikeouts per inning. A member of the USA Softball Under-18 Women's National Team, she also batted .500 with 47 RBI, 10 home runs and 28 runs scored. She's ranked as the nation's No. 6 pitcher in the Class of 2024 by Softball America.

Part of the Peer Assistance, Leadership and Service (PALS) program at Katy High School, Harrison has volunteered locally with the Katy Girls Softball Association spring clinic. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church youth group. "Cameryn can throw hard and move the ball around," said Ryan Baker, head coach at Paetow High School. "She hits her spots and does not make many mistakes. She's that pitcher that wants the ball and does not want to come out of the game. She can hit for power, but also drop a bunt down when asked to do it. She's a team player and will do what she has to do to help her team win games."

Harrison has maintained a 3.73 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at the University of Arkansas 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.

Harrison joins recent Gatorade Texas Softball Players of the Year Ava Brown (2022-23, Lake Creek High School), Ava Brown (2021-22, Lake Creek High School), Sophia Simpson (2020-21, Barbers Hill High School) and Jayda Coleman (2019-20, The Colony 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 <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>.