MISSISQUOI VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE VERMONT 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 **Molly Medor** of **Missisquoi Valley Union High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Vermont Softball Player of the Year**. Medor is the second Gatorade Vermont Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Missisquoi Valley Union 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 Medor as Vermont'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).

At the time of her selection, the 5-foot-8 senior right-handed pitcher had led the Thunderbirds to an 11-5 record entering Vermont's Division I state tournament. Medor compiled a 10-3 record in the circle with a 0.34 ERA, surrendering 31 hits over 81.1 innings pitched while striking out 173 batters through 16 games. She also batted .449 with 12 RBI and a .971 OPS. A two-time All-Metro Second Team selection as a pitcher, she concluded her regular season with an 11-inning, 22-strikeout performance against Colchester in which she allowed just two hits and one unearned run.

A member of both the National Honor Society and her school's student council, Medor has volunteered locally as an altar server in her local church parish in addition to coaching youth softball with players in Swanton's Little League organization. "She's the most dominant pitcher we faced," said Jeremy Roberts, head coach at St. Johnsbury Academy. "My team struggled to get hits off her. Last game, she gave up two hits and one earned run and we won 2-0, if that tells you anything."

Medor has maintained a 3.82 GPA in the classroom. She has verbally committed to play softball at Nichols College 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.

Medor joins recent Gatorade Vermont Softball Players of the Year Emily Borrazzo (2022-23, South Burlington High School), Emily Borrazzo (2021-22, South Burlington High School), Kelleigh Simpson (2020-21, Lyndon Institute) and Meghan Connor (2019-20, Bellows Free Academy), 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>.