DAPHNE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ALABAMA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 9, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Victoria Moten of Daphne High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Alabama Softball Player of the Year.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their success on the field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Moten as Alabama's best high school softball player, and she joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such Cat Osterman (2000-01, Cypress Springs High School, Texas), Rachel Garcia (2014-15 & 2012-13, Highland High School, Calif.), Ava Brown (2022-23, Lake Creek High School, Texas) and Addisen Fisher (2023-24, Bend High School, Oregon).

The 5-foot-4 senior right-handed pitcher led the Trojans to a 38-8 record and a berth in the 7A state tournament this past season. Moten posted a record of 23-4 with a 0.79 ERA and 328 strikeouts in 150.1 innings pitched. The returning Gatorade Player of the Year, she also hit .438 with 13 home runs and 36 RBI.

A member of the Title IX Committee at Daphne High School, Moten has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and the nursery at her church. She has also donated her time as a youth softball instructor, coach and umpire. "Moten can control a game completely from the circle," said Donny Bright, head coach at Dothan High School. "She only needs one to two runs to beat you, and she can give you those herself with one swing of the bat."

Moten has maintained a 3.27 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play softball at the University of Alabama 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 across 12 different high school sports – 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.

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 \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 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 Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade,</u> Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> and X (Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.

###