## ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 9, 2025) — In its 40<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Yasmin Burrell of St. John's College High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade District of Columbia 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 Burrell as District of Columbia'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-6 senior shortstop led the Cadets to a 16-8 record and a second straight DCSAA tournament championship this past season. Burrell batted .512 with 34 runs scored, 43 RBI and 10 doubles, compiling a slugging percentage of 1.000. A two-time First Team All-Washington Catholic Athletic Conference selection, she was also the 2024 DCSAA Player of the Year.

Burrell has volunteered locally as part of leadership programs through the Washington Urban League. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church and as an athletic trainer's aide at St. John's. "Yasmin made some spectacular plays against us to help keep them in the game," said OJ Lewis, head coach of St. Mary's Ryken High School. "We feared her the most in the batter's box, too."

Burrell has maintained a 3.32 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play softball at Coppin State University 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>.

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