EAST COWETA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE GEORGIA 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 Jada Savage of East Coweta High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Georgia 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 Savage as Georgia'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-9 junior right-handed pitcher and lefty hitter led the Indians (37-1) to the Class 6A state title last season. Savage posted a 27-1 record in the circle with a 0.61 ERA and 217 strikeouts in 148.2 innings. She compiled a 0.61 WHIP and held opposing hitters to a .121 average. She added 18 shutouts, including six no-hitters. At the plate, Savage batted .490 with 45 RBI and an OPS of 1.389. Ranked as the nation's No. 25 prospect in her class by Prep Softball, the 2024 GA Dugout Club Player of the Year hurled a complete game and drove in a run during a 4-3 win to clinch the championship.

Savage has volunteered extensively and in multiple capacities to support and instruct youth softball players in her community. She has also donated her time to supporting local families in need as part of donation initiatives. In addition, she has served on behalf of the Special Olympics and has fundraised for the Children's Hospital Association and the National MS Society. "Jada is an incredible competitor," said Cali Burton, head coach at Carrollton High School. "She holds herself to a high standard and you can tell she's an awesome teammate. She takes pride in playing the game the right way and respecting it. I have tremendous respect for the way she competes and how talented she is. It's obvious that she is a leader on the field and pushes everyone around her to compete on every pitch. I think she's very deserving of Gatorade Player of the Year recognition."

Savage has maintained an 87 average in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to play softball at the University of Mississippi beginning in the fall of 2026.

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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