CALVARY BAPTIST ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE LOUISIANA 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 Kynzee Anderson of Calvary Baptist Academy is the 2024-25 Gatorade Louisiana 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 Anderson as Louisiana'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 junior right-handed pitcher led the Cavaliers to a 37-1 record and the Select Division III state championship this past season. Anderson compiled a 24-1 record with a 1.26 earned run average, allowing just 63 hits while striking out 245 batters in 145 innings pitched. She fired a five-inning no-hitter in a 12-0 win over D'Arbonne Woods in the state final to earn the game's Most Outstanding Player award. Ranked as the nation's No. 1 pitching recruit in the Class of 2026 by Line Drive Media, she also batted .466 with 14 home runs, 45 RBI and a 1.034 slugging percentage.

Anderson has volunteered locally making crafts and playing games at a nursing home. She has also donated her time as a youth softball coach and as part of multiple community service initiatives through her church. "Kynzee is definitely the heart of their team," said David DeMoss, head coach of D'Arbonne Woods High School. "She throws about as hard as anyone and has an offspeed and a changeup that will devastate you if you've done nothing but work to hit her harder stuff."

Anderson has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to receive athletic aid to play softball at the University of Georgia beginning in the fall of 2026.

The Gatorade Player of the Year 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 facebook.com/GatoradePOY and X (Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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