CHEVERUS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MAINE 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 Addison DeRoche of Cheverus High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Maine 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 DeRoche as Maine'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).

At the time of her selection, the 5-foot-9 sophomore right-handed pitcher and first baseman had led the Stags to a 13-0 record and a berth in the Class A state tournament. DeRoche compiled a 9-0 record in the circle with a 0.259 ERA through 13 games, striking out 121 batters and walking just 11 in 54 innings. She posted a 0.407 WHIP. At the plate, she entered the postseason batting .605 with eight home runs, 32 RBI and 16 runs scored, recording a .660 on-base percentage, 1.302 slugging percentage and a 1.963 OPS. The returning Gatorade Maine Softball Player of the Year, DeRoche is ranked as the nation's No. 1 prospect in her class by Softball America as a pitcher/utility player and No. 4 in the class by Prep Softball. She also appears on the 2027 Watch List compiled by On3.

DeRoche has volunteered locally on behalf of Best Buddies, a local food drive and at a shelter that prepares meals for the homeless. "She's a superb human being and the definition of getting where she wants to be through hard work," said Massabesic High School head coach Kevin Tutt. "She's a humble kid that makes it all look too easy."

DeRoche has maintained a 3.99 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her junior year of high school 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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