

MERCY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE MICHIGAN 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 Kaitlyn Pallozzi of Mercy High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Michigan 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 Pallozzi as Michigan's best high school softball player, and she joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as 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 6-foot-3 senior right-handed pitcher and first baseman had led the Marlins to a 26-2 record and the Division 1 Regional 7 semifinals this season. Pallozzi went 23-0 in the circle with a 0.14 ERA through 28 games, striking out 351 batters and walking just 26 in 146 innings to average 2.4 Ks per inning. She compiled a 0.34 WHIP and opposing batters hit 0.49 against her entering the regional round of four. At the plate, she hit .460 with four home runs, 18 RBI and a 1.345 OPS. Ranked as the nation's No. 5 prospect in her class by Extra Innings Softball, she entered this season a two-time First Team All-State selection.

Pallozzi has volunteered locally on behalf of the Miracle League and PBJ Outreach. She has also donated her time to a vacation bible school and by instructing youth players in addition to working a job at the Twin Beach Country Club. "Kaitlyn is an outstanding competitor who's respectful of both opponents and the game of softball," said Mercy High School head coach Corey Burras. "Her achievements are the direct result of her commitment. Even with all her personal accomplishments, she remains caring and humble. Her character is impeccable."

Pallozzi has maintained a 3.39 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play softball at the University of Alabama this fall.

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 [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](https://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X (Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).

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