CHARLOTTE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NORTH CAROLINA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 9, 2025) — In its 40^{th} year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Anna Hinde of Charlotte Christian School is the 2024-25 Gatorade North Carolina 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 Hinde as North Carolina'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-4 senior catcher and shortstop led the Knights to a 17-6 record and the NCISAA Division I state title this past season. Ranked as the nation's No. 1 prospect in her class by Perfect Game, Hinde batted .679 with seven home runs, 28 RBI and 38 runs, posting an OBP of .802 and an OPS of 2.142. She drew 31 walks and struck out just three times in 86 plate appearances. She threw out three of seven would-be base-stealers, picked off three runners and made one fielding error all season.

Hinde has volunteered locally on behalf of Beds for Kids, Loaves & Fishes, Coats for Kids, the Carolina Miracle League Summer Camp and a homeless community support initiative. She has also donated her time coaching baseball and softball in a variety of capacities. At her school, Hinde has served on the student senate and as a house chaplain, A STEM Camp counselor and math tutor. "Anna is an outstanding defender on the field and a threat at the plate," said Brittany Pickett, a coach with Team NC club softball. "The grit that she brings to the game shows in her leadership on the field and in her tenacious work ethic off the field and in her community. Having excelled against national level competition for several years in combination with her impressive softball IQ and her love of the game, Anna is, without a doubt, one of the most talented athletes in the 2025 class."

Hinde has maintained a 4.26 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play softball at Florida 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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