

PERRYSBURG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE OHIO 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 Hayley Griggs of Perrysburg High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Ohio 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 Griggs as Ohio'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).

The 5-foot-6 senior shortstop tied a state record with 23 home runs this past season, leading the Yellow Jackets (27-2) to the Division I, Region 3 championship game. Griggs batted .656 with 64 runs scored, 55 RBI, 13 doubles and seven triples. She also stole 29 bases, drew 28 walks and compiled a .736 on-base percentage to go with a 1.688 slugging percentage. The 2024 PGF Futures All-American Game MVP, she is ranked as the nation's No. 6 recruit in the Class of 2025 by Softball America.

Griggs has volunteered locally at Sunshine Inc. of NW Ohio, a center dedicated to children of all ages that experience challenges with learning and social skills. She also designed and coordinated a three-day softball hitting clinic with her sister, Kylie, and helped run a career day at a local middle school. "Hayley is by far the best player I've ever had to coach against," said Rob Gwozdz, head coach of Springfield High School. "She has the 'it' factor both on offense and defense. She acts and looks the part, she's the toughest out I've ever faced and her arm at shortstop is incredible."

Griggs has maintained a 4.04 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play softball at Florida State University 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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