## SCIO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE OREGON 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 Myleigh Cooper of Scio High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Oregon 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 Cooper as Oregon'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-6 senior right-handed pitcher had led the Loggers to a 26-1 record and a berth in the Class 3A state semifinals. Cooper batted an eye-poping .824 with a state-record 26 home runs, 68 runs scored and 72 RBI through 27 games. Entering the postseason round of four, she'd walked 39 times, stolen 12 bases and posted a .882 on-base percentage along with an OPS of 3.088. In the circle, the two-time Class 3A Player of the Year owned a 19-1 record with a 0.84 earned run average and 182 strikeouts in 108 innings. She entered the state semifinals with a state-record 74 home runs in her prep softball career.

The vice president of the Scio High School student body, Cooper has volunteered locally as a peer tutor and she has donated her time as a youth softball and volleyball coach. "Myleigh is undoubtedly the best softball player in Oregon," said Frank Baumholtz, head coach of Dayton High School. "I've had the pleasure to watch her grow over the last four years. She commands the circle and is the nucleus of that Loggers team. Her leadership and dominance in the circle is what every team dreams of."

Cooper has maintained a 3.92 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play softball at Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo 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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