

GRAY COLLEGIATE ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE SOUTH CAROLINA 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 Aspen Boulware of Gray Collegiate Academy is the 2024-25 Gatorade South 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 Boulware as South Carolina'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 sophomore shortstop led the War Eagles to a 32-3 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Boulware batted .573 with 22 home runs, 67 runs scored and 44 RBI. The youngest member of the 2025 18U USA Junior Women's National Team, Boulware also produced nine doubles and eight triples, drew 34 walks and stole 26 bases, compiling a .696 on-base percentage and an OPS of 2.379. The 2025 South Carolina Coaches Association of Women's Sports Class 4A Player of the Year, she is ranked as the nation's No. 4 infielder in the Class of 2027 by Extra Inning Softball.

A member of the Gray Collegiate Academy student athlete leadership team, Boulware has volunteered locally as part of multiple community service initiatives through her church youth group. "Aspen is a generational player, that is for sure," said Lindsey Jones, head coach of North Augusta High School. "I know most teams fear her at the plate so she gets a lot of intentional walks. But even then that becomes a guaranteed double for her. Even when she half-swings, the ball has the potential to go over the fence. She is a very strong athlete."

Boulware has maintained an A average in the classroom. She will begin her junior year of high school 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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