GREEN HILL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE TENNESSEE SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 9, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Avary Stockwell of Green Hill High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Tennessee 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 Stockwell as Tennessee'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-9 junior third baseman and catcher batted .663 with 25 home runs and 62 RBI this past season, leading the Hawks to the Class 4A state championship game. A three-time District Player of the Year, Stockwell also scored 62 runs, banged out 18 doubles and compiled a .754 on-base percentage to go with a 2.387 OPS. She concluded her junior year with 62 home runs and 192 RBI in her prep softball career.

A member of her school's chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Stockwell has volunteered locally at an animal shelter and as a youth softball coach. She has also donated her time on behalf of the Mount Juliet Challenger League that supports athletes with disabilities. "Avary is outstanding," said Ashley Jones, head coach of Hendersonville High School. "She is very difficult to pitch to, and even when you're not trying to pitch to her, she will hit balls out that aren't even close to the zone. Her bat lights up the whole lineup, and her team thrives on her energy."

Stockwell has maintained a weighted 4.26 GPA in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to receive athletic aid to play softball at the University of Tennessee beginning in the fall of 2026.

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 <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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