## SKYVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WASHINGTON 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 Maddie Milhorn of Skyview High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Washington 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 Milhorn as Washington'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).

Also the 2022-23 Gatorade State Player of the Year, the 5-foot-11 senior right-handed pitcher led the Storm to a 24-1 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Milhorn posted a 21-1 mark in the circle with a 0.46 earned run average, striking out 235 batters while allowing just 29 hits in 107 innings pitched. At the plate, the four-time Greater St. Helen's League Pitcher and Player of the Year compiled a .492 batting average with nine home runs, 38 RBI and a .985 slugging percentage. She concluded her prep softball career with a 73-3 record in the circle and 39 home runs at the plate.

Milhorn has volunteered locally ringing the bell with the Salvation Army and on behalf of a food bank. She has also donated her time as a youth softball coach. "Maddie is literally in a league of her own both as a pitcher and a hitter," said Steve Bevens, head coach of Camas High School. "At times this season, she made us feel like we were facing a Major League pitcher with her speed, ball movement and control. Maddie is a generational pitcher."

Milhorn has maintained a 3.75 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play softball at the University of Oregon 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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