KAUKAUNA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WISCONSIN 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 Karly Meredith of Kaukauna High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Wisconsin 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 Meredith as Wisconsin'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-7 senior right-handed pitcher and utility player had led the Galloping Ghosts (23-0) to a berth in the Division 1 Regional finals. Meredith posted a 0.17 ERA and a 0.36 WHIP in winning all 23 games, firing 15 shutouts, including five no-hitters, and holding opposing hitters to a .068 batting average. She fanned an average of two batters per inning through 23 games. At the plate, she entered the regional final with a .453 average along with 30 RBI and an OPS of 1.358. Ranked as the nation's No. 42 recruit in her class by Perfect Game, she is now a three-time Gatorade Wisconsin Softball Player of the Year honoree.

Meredith has volunteered locally in association with Holy Cross Church and has been a member of the CYO basketball program for four years. She has also donated her time on behalf of Christ the King Church in addition to serving as a youth softball coach and instructor. "There's not another player like Karly in the state of Wisconsin," said Kaukauna High School head coach Tim Roehrig. "She not only dominates at the plate, but also dominates in the circle. She may be the best softball player in the country. She's lost once in her entire high school career."

Meredith has maintained a 3.89 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play softball on scholarship at the University of Virginia 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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