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**LAKE CITY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® IDAHO SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 6, 2013) — In its 28<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Casey Stangel of Lake City High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Idaho Softball Player of the Year. Stangel is the first Gatorade Idaho Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Lake City High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Stangel as Idaho's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Stangel joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Alicia Hollowell (2000-01, Fairfield HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Angela Tincher (2002-03, James River HS, Va.) and Kenzie Fowler (2006-07, Canyon del Oro HS, Ariz.).

The state's two-time returning Gatorade Softball Player of the Year, Stangel led the Timberwolves to a 28-0 record and a second Class 5A state championship in three seasons. The 5-foot-10 senior left-handed pitcher posted a 28-0 record with a 0.73 ERA and 208 strikeouts in 143 innings-pitched. The four-time Inland Empire League MVP also batted .640 with 16 home runs, 20 doubles, 54 runs scored and 65 RBI. A three-time MaxPreps All-American, she recorded a .705 on-base percentage and a 1.393 slugging percentage in 2013.

Stangel has maintained a 3.66 GPA in the classroom and has served as both student council secretary and treasurer. In addition to donating her time as a youth softball instructor, she has volunteered on behalf of her church and in association with the National Honor Society.

"Casey Stangel is a phenomenal young lady who strives to excel in all that she does," said Lake City head coach Laura Tolzmann. "She leads by example, demonstrates an incredible work ethic, respects the game and her teammates, and she is extremely goal-oriented. Casey's level of effort sets the standard for her teammates. She continued to set new school records throughout her high school career, and she only lost one game since 2010 as a pitcher. Casey is the best softball player in the state hands down."

Stangel has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at the University of Missouri this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school 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 high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](#), which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Stangel joins Gatorade Idaho Softball Players of the Year Nickayla Skinner (2009-10 & 2008-09, Mountain Home), Joni Cook (2007-08, Eagle), and Britney Croner (2006 - 07, Bishop Kelly) among the state's list of former award winners.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit [www.gatorade.com/poy](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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