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**STEVENSON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MICHIGAN SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 6, 2013) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Alyssa Huntley of Stevenson High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Michigan Softball Player of the Year. Huntley is the first Gatorade Michigan Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Stevenson 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 Huntley as Michigan's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Huntley 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 5-foot-6 senior right-handed pitcher led the Titans to a 24-6 record and a berth in the Division 1, District 23 tournament final, scheduled for June 4. At the time of her selection, Huntley owned a 21-3 record with two saves, a 0.70 ERA and 185 strikeouts in 159.1 innings pitched. At the plate, the two-time Macomb County Player of the Year batted .494 with six home runs, 12 doubles, 24 runs scored, 42 RBI and a .843 slugging percentage through 30 games.

Huntley has maintained a 3.02 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as a youth softball coach.

"Alyssa is a hard thrower who has a lot of confidence and takes control of the game," said Matt Joseph, head coach of Utica Ford High. "When she gets in a jam she can rear back and give that little bit extra to get that big strikeout or pop out to thwart the rally. Offensively she is a threat to make something happen every time she comes to the plate."

Huntley has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on an athletic scholarship at Eastern Michigan University 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.

Huntley joins recent Gatorade Michigan Softball Players of the Year Briana Combs (2011-12, Ladywood High School), Sara Driesenga (2010-11, 2009-10 & 2008-09, Hudsonville High School), Jenna Ignowski (2007-08, Niles), and Amanda Chidester (2006 - 07, Cabrini) 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.

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