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CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NEVADA 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 Savannah Horvath of Centennial High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Nevada Softball Player of the Year. Horvath is the third Gatorade Nevada Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Centennial 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 Horvath as Nevada's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Horvath 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-8 junior third baseman led the Bulldogs (36-6) to the Class 4A state championship this past season. Horvath batted .585 with 17 home runs, 64 runs scored and a state record-tying 87 RBI. She is a First Team All-State selection and the Las Vegas Review-Journal Player of the Year.

Horvath has maintained a 3.97 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally raising funds for a student stricken with cancer.

"Horvath was outstanding this year," said Jon Wunder, head coach at Reed High. "She can hit for power, but she can also drop a bunt down and she has exceptional speed. She's great defensively too, with a rocket for an arm."

Horvath will begin her senior year of high school 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 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Horvath joins recent Gatorade Nevada Softball Players of the Year Heather Bowen (2011-12, Centennial High School), Melissa McCormick (2010-11, Palo Verde High School), Karlyn Jones (2009-10, Spanish Springs), Chelsea Cohen (2008-09, Reed), Mallary Darby (2007-08 & 2006 – 07 Spanish Springs) 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.