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**HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® OHIO 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 Jenna Lilley of Hoover High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Ohio Softball Player of the Year. Lilley is the third Gatorade Ohio Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Hoover 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 Lilley as Ohio's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Lilley 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-4 junior right-handed shortstop led the Crimson Tide to a 32-0 record and the Division I semifinals, scheduled for June 6. Lilley batted .697 with seven home runs, 53 RBI and 46 runs scored through 32 games. A 2012 First Team All-State selection, she has produced an .804 on-base percentage and a 1.303 slugging percentage.

Lilley has maintained a 3.91 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Humane Society of the United States, the YMCA and helped raise awareness of the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse.

"Jenna Lilley is always encouraging, inspiring and motivating other players with her positive attitude and play," said North Canton Hoover High head coach Jerry Goodpasture. "She is a great teammate and a joy to coach."

Lilley has made a verbal commitment to play softball on an athletic scholarship at the University of Oregon beginning in the fall of 2014.

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.

Lilley joins recent Gatorade Ohio Softball Players of the Year Kenzie Conrad (2011-12, Keystone High School), Erin Gabriel (2010-11 & 2009-10, Poland Seminary High School), Tess Sito (2008-09 & 2007-08, Elyria) and Jessica Simpson (2006 - 07, Hoover) 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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