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**GORDONSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® TENNESSEE SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 5, 2014) — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Cori Jennings of Gordonsville High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Tennessee Softball Player of the Year. Jennings is the first Gatorade Tennessee Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Gordonsville 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 Jennings as Tennessee's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Jennings 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-7 senior left-handed pitcher led the Tigers to a 32-10 record and the Class A state championship this past season. A two-time returning Class A First Team All-State selection as named by the Tennessee Sports Writers Association, Jennings compiled a 32-3 record with a 0.62 ERA and 245 strikeouts, issuing just 14 walks in 190 innings. Ranked as the nation's No. 42 recruit in the Class of 2014 by Student Sports, Jennings batted .486 with 31 extra-base hits, 39 runs scored and 51 RBI. In the Class A state tournament, she threw four consecutive shutouts during Gordonsville's run to the state title.

Jennings has maintained a 3.78 weighted GPA in the classroom. A member her school's National Beta and HOSA-Future Health Professionals chapters, she also belongs to Gordonsville's science, math and Spanish clubs. Jennings has volunteered as part of multiple service initiatives on behalf of her church community.

"By far, Cori Jennings is the best player we saw all year," said Lee Phillips, head coach at rival Goodpasture Christian School. "As a left-handed pitcher, she reminds me of Danielle Pieroni, who won Gatorade Tennessee Softball Player of the Year in 2004 and 2005. She was dominant in our area."

Jennings has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga 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.

Jennings joins recent Gatorade Tennessee Softball Players of the Year Makenzie Prince (2012-13, Smyrna High School), Kelsey Nunley (2011-12, Soddy-Daisy High School), Lacye Walker (2010-11, Grace Baptist Academy), Ellen Renfroe (2009-10, Trinity Christian Academy), Kelsey Cartwright (2008-09, Goodpasture Christian School), Holly Thomas (2007-08, Ooltewah), and Baillie Lott (2006-07, Brentwood) 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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