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**SALEM HILLS HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® UTAH 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 Kirtlyn Bohling of Salem Hills High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Utah Softball Player of the Year. Bohling is the first Gatorade Utah Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Salem Hills 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 Bohling as Utah's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Bohling 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 returning Gatorade State Player of the Year, the 5-foot-9 right-handed senior pitcher posted a 22-7 record in the circle along with a 0.97 ERA this past season, leading the Skyhawks (24-8-2) to a second straight Class 4A state title. Bohling struck out 312 batters and walked just 37 in 216 innings pitched. She fired 10 shutouts and one no-hitter, holding opponents to a .166 batting average. At the plate, the 2014 Class 4A MVP for both the Deseret News and the Salt Lake Tribune batted .299 with one home run, seven RBI and a .451 on-base percentage.

Bohling has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally at the Spanish Fork Public Library and as part of area blood-donation drives. She has also donated her time to multiple community-service initiatives in association with her church youth group.

"If you took Kirtlyn away from Salem Hills, they would not have gotten as far as they did," said Jill Thackeray, head coach of Springville High. "She is a game-changer. She is a phenomenal pitcher and hard to rattle."

Bohling has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on an athletic scholarship at Weber State 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.

Two-time winner Bohling joins Gatorade Utah Softball Players of the Year Jordan Theurer (2011-12, Bear River High School), MaCauley Flint (2010-11, Roy High School), Tori Almond (2009-10, 2007-08, Bingham), Shelbi Tyteca (2008-09, Viewmont), and Cyd Allen (2006-07, Taylorsville) 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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