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**REED HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEVADA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 4, 2015) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Julia Jensen of Reed High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Nevada Softball Player of the Year. Jensen is the second Gatorade Nevada Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Reed 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 Jensen 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, Jensen 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 sophomore right-handed pitcher led the Raiders (37-2) to the Division 1 state championship this past season. Jensen posted a 34-2 record and a 0.80 ERA in the circle, along with a .477 batting average, seven home runs and 43 RBI at the plate. The Las Vegas Review-Journal Player of the Year and a First Team All-State honoree, she struck out 346 batters in 211 innings, issuing just 31 walks. Jensen was also named the Northern Nevada Division 1 Player of the Year.

Jensen has maintained a 4.30 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of an animal shelter and youth softball programs.

"No other player in the state was as dominant as Jensen," said Rob Wirth, head coach at Galena High. "She has pinpoint command with all her pitches and constantly makes adjustments. She was a great pitcher and her hitting was just as good."

Jensen will begin her junior year of high school 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.

Jensen joins recent Gatorade Nevada Softball Players of the Year Heather Bowen (2013-14, Centennial High School), Savannah Horvath (2012-13, Centennial High School), Heather Bowen (2011-12, Centennial High School), Melissa McCormick (2010-11, Palo Verde High School), Karlyn Jones (2009-10, Spanish Springs High School), Chelsea Cohen (2008-09, Reed High School), and Mallery Darby (2007-08 & 2006-07, Spanish Springs High School) 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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