

Contact: Jason Belenke (312-729-3631)

**TUALATIN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® OREGON 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 Emily Sorem of Tualatin High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Oregon Softball Player of the Year. Sorem is the first Gatorade Oregon Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Tualatin 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 Sorem as Oregon's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Sorem 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 senior right-handed pitcher had led the Timberwolves to a 26-1 record and a berth in the Class 6A state semifinals at the time of her selection. Sorem had posted a 25-0 record with a 0.36 ERA and 313 strikeouts in 154.1 innings pitched thru 27 games. A 2014 Class 6A Second Team All-State honoree, she had thrown five no-hitters and held opponents to a .091 batting average.

Sorem has maintained a 3.52 GPA in the classroom. The Product Line Manager at the Tualatin High Student Store, she has volunteered locally as a tutor for special education students and as a youth softball coach.

"Emily Sorem is incredible," said Jacy Jukkala, head coach of Glencoe High. "She's a tough player who stays incredibly calm even in difficult situations. There is not a pitcher in the state who competes at the level that Emily does."

Sorem will attend Lehigh University in Pennsylvania, where she will play softball beginning 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.

Sorem joins recent Gatorade Oregon Softball Players of the Year Katie Donovan (2013-14, South Salem High School), Maryssa Becker (2012-13 & 2011-12, North Medford High School), Alyssa Gillespie (2010-11, Glencoe High School), Kaitlin Inglesby (2009-10, Central Catholic), Anna Bertrand (2008-09, McMinnville), Paige Hall (2007-08, Jesuit), and Mikayla Endicott (2006-07, Roseburg) 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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