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EAST BERNARD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® TEXAS 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 Samantha Show of East Bernard High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Texas Softball Player of the Year. Show is the first Gatorade Texas Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from East Bernard 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 Show as Texas's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Show 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 2012-13 Gatorade State Player of the Year at Pearland High, the 6-foot senior right-handed pitcher had led the Lady Brahmarettes to a 35-2 record and a berth in the Class 3A state tournament semifinals at the time of her selection. Show had posted a 31-2 record with a 0.59 ERA and 410 strikeouts in 201.1 innings pitched through 37 games. She had thrown 13 no-hitters, including three perfect games, and held opponents to a .074 batting average. A 2013 National Fastpitch Coaches Association Second Team All-American, Show was batting .678 with 21 home runs and 61 RBI. Entering the state final four, she had scored 57 runs, walked 40 times and posted a .771 on-base percentage and a 1.644 slugging percentage.

Show has maintained an A-minus average in the classroom. She has volunteered locally with the Special Olympics and as a youth softball coach.

"Samantha Show has done a great job this year," said Ronnie Berryhill, head coach of Danbury High. "In the circle she has been a dominating force. She moves the ball around and keeps the batters off-balance. At the plate, if you are crazy enough to pitch to her she is going to hit it hard somewhere."

Show has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on an athletic scholarship at Texas A&M University 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.

Two-time winner Show joins recent Gatorade Texas Softball Players of the Year Randi Rupp (2013-14, Barbers Hill High School), Heather Stearns (2011-12, Hebron High School), Paige McDuffee (2010-11, The Woodlands High School), Rachel Fox (2009-10 & 2008-09, Fort Bend Baptist Academy), Whitney Canion (2007-08, Aledo), and Brittany Barnhill (2006-07, Northwest) 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.