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**IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE SOUTH DAKOTA GIRLS TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 17, 2015) — In its 30<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Macy Heinz of Ipswich High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade South Dakota Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Heinz is the first Gatorade South Dakota Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year to be chosen from Ipswich 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 track, distinguishes Heinz as South Dakota's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year award to be announced in June, Heinz joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Allyson Felix (2001-02, Los Angeles Baptist, 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.), Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt HS, Ia.) and Bianca Knight (2006-07, Ridgeland HS, Miss.).

The 5-foot-11 sophomore sprinter and distance runner captured four individual state championships at the Class B state meet this spring, leading the Tigers to the state title as a team. Heinz won the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.10 seconds, the 400 in 57.87, the 800 in 2:15.11 and the 1600 with a time of 5:18.02. The 2015 Class B Girls Track Athlete of the Year, she broke the tape in the 800 at the Howard Wood Dakota Relays, crossing the line in 2:11.19.

Heinz has maintained a 4.10 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Holy Cross Catholic Church and as a youth softball, tee-ball and track & field coach.

"Macy Heinz has tremendous ability as a track & field athlete," said Jeremy Chicoine, head coach at Sully Buttes High. "Her accomplishments are only out done by her work ethic and class. As a sophomore, she is already one of the most accomplished track athletes in state history but is extraordinarily humble and gracious, considering all she has done."

Heinz 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.

Heinz joins recent Gatorade South Dakota Girls Track & Field Athletes of the Year Cortney Dowling (2013-14 & 2012-13, T.F. Riggs High School), Kari Heck (2011-12 & 2010-11, Washington High School), Jasmyne King (2009-10 & 2008-09 & 2007-08, Rapid City Central), and Leslie Brost (2006-07, Watertown) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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