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Coronado High School STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE Nevada GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (February 4, 2016) — In its 31st year of honoring the nation’s best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced **Taylor Kornieck of Coronado High School** as its **2015-16 Gatorade Nevada Girls Soccer Player of the Year**. Kornieck is the second Gatorade Nevada Girls Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Coronado 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 Kornieck as Nevada’s best high school girls soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Kornieck joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Heather O’Reilly (2001-02, East Brunswick HS, N.J.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 6-foot-1 senior midfielder scored 56 goals and passed for 19 assists this past season, leading the Cougars (19-2-2) to the Division I state championship game. A three-time First Team All-State selection, Kornieck was called away for two games this season to participate in a training camp with the U.S. Soccer Under-18 Women’s National Team. She concluded her prep soccer career with 84 goals and 44 assists.

Kornieck has maintained a weighted 4.23 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally with Best Buddies, the Special Olympics and the Make-A-Wish Foundation in addition to donating her time as a youth soccer coach.

“Taylor Kornieck is probably one of the best players to ever come out of our state,” said Catherine Davis, head coach of Green Valley High. “She is an absolute force—someone you have to man-mark and game plan around constantly. She carried Coronado’s team this year.”

Kornieck has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of Colorado beginning this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](http://www.gatorade.com/poy/overview.aspx) 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](http://www.usatodayhss.com/customize), 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.

Kornieck joins recent Gatorade Nevada Girls Soccer Players of the Year Michaela Morris (2014-15, Coronado High School), Sydney Sladek (2013-14, Pahrump Valley High School), Nicole Westover (2012-13, Green Valley High School), Haley Wingender (2011-12, Bishop Gorman High School), Lauren Kaskie (2010–11, Palo Verde High School), McKenzie Karas (2009-10, Arbor View High School), Zakiya Bywaters (2008–09, Rancho High School), and Jenna Riddle (2007-08 & 2006-07, Centennial 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy)*.*

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