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**EAST ANCHORAGE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® ALASKA SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 2, 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 Daisy Page of East Anchorage High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Alaska Softball Player of the Year. Page is the second Gatorade Alaska Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from East Anchorage 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 Page as Alaska's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Page 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 sophomore right-handed pitcher has led the Thunderbirds to a 23-3 record and a berth in the state tournament, scheduled to begin June 4. A First Team All-Cook Inlet Conference selection, Page compiled a 23-3 record in the circle through 26 games with a 1.41 ERA and 193 strikeouts in 124 innings pitched. Offensively, she batted .581 with three home runs, 30 runs scored and a 1.041 slugging percentage.

Page has maintained a 3.83 weighted GPA in the classroom. A devoted parishioner in her church community, she has participated locally on behalf of multiple car wash fundraisers and as a youth softball coach.

"In my opinion, Daisy Page is by far the best pitcher we have here in the state of Alaska and she is still just a sophomore," said East Anchorage head coach Paul Schoenborn. "She has pitched every inning for us since she has been at our school. This team is only going to go as far as she takes us."

Page 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.

Page joins recent Gatorade Alaska Softball Players of the Year Taria Page (2014-15 & 2013-14, East Anchorage High School), Pauline Tufi (2012-13, 2011-12 & 2010-11, West Anchorage High School), Brittany Fenumiai, (2009-10 & 2008-09, Juneau-Douglas High School), Carrie Ann Laliberte (2007-08, Juneau-Douglas High School), and Joanna Schultz, (2006-07, Chugiak 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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