

## **YOUNG GUN**

In August 2024, a little more than two months after her 18th birthday and just three months after her graduation from Coronado High School in Henderson, Nev., Joncich was putting a gold medal around her neck as she helped the U.S. National Team emerge atop a field of 23 women's national teams from across the globe and earn a gold medal in the largest IFAF Flag Football World Championship in history.

Joncich was the youngest member of the Women's National Team in 2024, a distinction she holds again this year by roughly one month over teammate London Jenkins. Her age didn't stop her from being a contributor on the road to the U.S. National Team's success. Joncich's versatile skillset put her on the field at quarterback and wide receiver at the World Championship. She completed 26-of-32 passes for 239 yards. six touchdowns and four extra points, notched 12 receptions for 99 yards, three touchdowns and four extra points, and added 10 rushes for 113 yards and three touchdowns.

"Winning gold at the IFAF World Championship in Finland is my greatest football moment," said Joncich. "It was surreal to see all of the team's hard work pay off."

Joncich first gained exposure to international football at the youth level as a member of USA Football's 2022 15U and 2023 17U Girls' Flag National Teams that won gold medals at the Junior International Cup. an international competition among 15U and 17U Boys' and Girls' Flag National Teams from across the world.





Joncich was a flag football sensation at Coronado High School in Nevada, where the sport is sanctioned at the varsity level for girls.

She was a three-time high school flag football All-Star honoree and was previously the All-Star Game MVP. In four seasons of varsity play, Joncich was awarded All-Southern honors three times and was her team's MVP twice. Additionally, she qualified for regionals in the 100-meter and 200-meter dashes on the track and field team.

Her dual-threat ability set her apart as she played quarterback and safety. She ran 13 times for 120 yards and three touchdowns in the 2024 Class 4A State Flag Football Championship Game as Coronado captured the title 25-16 in rainy conditions. Joncich was named 4A Player of the Year in Nevada after finishing her season with a 20-2 record, 5,216 passing yards and 81 passing touchdowns and 2,060 rushing yards and 21 rushing touchdowns.



## **LEARNING AND GROWING IN FLAG**

Joncich played basketball, soccer and tennis growing up, but began playing flag football 13 years ago after she saw her brothers enjoying the sport. Her love for the game grew as more opportunities opened up for girls, and she pursued playing quarterback, the same position as her favorite football player, Peyton Manning.

"My head is clear of any worry whatsoever when I am on the field," said Joncich. "I can enjoy the moment with teammates who are incredible humans and play the game that I am passionate about. I wake up in the morning and just want to throw the football, I love it so much. The teamwork and leadership qualities that I can gain from playing are so special."

Joncich has continued her flag football career from high school to college at the University of Florida, where she's part of the honors college and studying on a pre-med track.

"My dream is become an Olympic athlete and a sports medicine physician one day," Joncich said.

In her freshman year at Florida, Joncich helped lead the Gators become the 2024 NIRSA (National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association) National Champions. Joncich was named tournament MVP and also earned recognition as "Rookie of the Year" across all University of Florida club sports.



