

Contact: Ashley Ginascol (312-729-3622)

**A.I. DUPONT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® DELAWARE BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 28, 2013) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Pete Grasso of A.I. duPont High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year. Grasso is the first Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from A.I. duPont 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 Grasso as Delaware's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Grasso joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Roy Halladay (1994-95, Arvada West HS, Colo.), David Price (2003-04, Blackman HS, Tenn.), Chipper Jones (1989-90, Bolles School, Fla.), Derrek Lee (1992-93, El Camino HS, Calif.) and John Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Prep, Wash.).

The 6-foot, 170-pound senior right-handed pitcher and infielder batted .561 with five home runs, 29 RBI, 24 runs scored and a .955 slugging percentage this past season, leading the Tigers (16-3) to the state quarterfinals. The 2013 Blue Hen Conference Player of the Year, he also posted a 7-1 record on the mound with a 1.42 ERA and 51 strikeouts in 49.1 innings.

Grasso has maintained a 3.63 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society, he has volunteered locally preparing and serving meals for the needy and has worked a part-time job at an area deli.

"Pete Grasso is the perfect representative for high school baseball in Delaware," said Tim Hamberger, head coach at Wilmington High. "I have coached against him for three years and have seen that he is a great kid and a superb talent on the field."

Grasso has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at Salisbury State University 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.

Grasso joins recent Gatorade Delaware Baseball Players of the Year Mitchell Moore (2011-12, Dover High School), Lincoln Lambertson (2010 - 11, Salesianum School), Taylor Mahoney (2009-10, St. Mark's), Eric Buckland (2008-09 Caravel Academy), and Derrick Gibson (2007-08 & 2006-2007, Seaford), 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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