

**Contact: Jason Belenke (312-729-3631)**

**BISHOP HENDRICKEN HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® RHODE ISLAND BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 27, 2014) — — In its 29<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 Gian Martellini of Bishop Hendricken High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Rhode Island Baseball Player of the Year. Martellini is the tenth Gatorade Rhode Island Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Bishop Hendricken 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 Martellini as Rhode Island's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Martellini 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.), Derek Lee (1992-93, El Camino HS, Calif.) and John Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Prep, Wash.).

The 6-foot-1, 200-pound junior catcher led the Hawks to a 17-1 record and a berth in the Division I state tournament, scheduled to begin May 28. A returning Second Team All-State selection as named by the Providence Journal, Martellini batted .467 with 14 extra-base hits, 25 runs scored and 41 RBI while committing just one error behind the plate through 18 games. A member of the All-Tournament Team at this past summer's 2013 World Wood Bat Association Underclass World Championship, he started for Bishop Hendricken's 2013 Division I state championship team as a sophomore.

Martellini has maintained a 3.14 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth baseball instructor, he has volunteered on behalf of Habitat for Humanity and his school's peer-mentoring program for students with educational and developmental disabilities.

"Gian Martellini is basically a college catcher playing high school baseball," said Paul Murphy, head coach of rival Cumberland High. "He's special. He's a quiet leader and leads by example."

Martellini has verbally committed to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at Vanderbilt University beginning in the fall of 2015.

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.

Martellini joins recent Gatorade Rhode Island Baseball Players of the Year Mike King (2012-13, Bishop Hendricken High School), David Hopkins (2011-12, East Greenwich High School), Harrison Barlow (2010 - 11, South Kingstown High School), Anthony Aceto (2009-10, North Providence), Ryan Morris (2008-09, North Kingstown), and Ryan Westmoreland (2007-08 & 2006-2007, Portsmouth), 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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