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LAUREL HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® DELAWARE SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 5, 2014) — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Regan Green of Laurel High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Delaware Softball Player of the Year. Green is the first Gatorade Delaware Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Laurel 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 Green as Delaware's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Green 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-6 junior right-handed pitcher led the Bulldogs to a 19-2 record and a second consecutive state championship this past season. A returning First Team All-State selection as named by The News Journal, Green owned a 16-2 record with two saves, a 0.50 ERA and 269 strikeouts against just 17 walks in 139 innings pitched. Also a first baseman, she batted .397 with three home runs, nine runs scored and 19 RBI.

Green has maintained a 3.68 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating her time as a youth softball instructor, she has volunteered locally at the Laurel Senior Center, as an elementary school classroom assistant and on behalf of the National Honor Society.

"She is probably the best pitcher in our state this year," said Charlie Darling, head coach of rival Lake Forest High. "She throws well over 60 miles per hour, has great control and mixes in other pitches as well—the best we have seen in the last two years. She can also hit and run the bases very well."

Green has verbally committed to play softball on an athletic scholarship at Mississippi State 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.

Green joins recent Gatorade Delaware Softball Players of the Year Carolyn Szymanski (2012-13, Caravel Academy), Kim Smith (2011-12, Sussex Tech High School), Rachel Gillen (2010-11, 2009-10 & 2008-09, Archmere Academy), Erika Brittingham (2007-08, Sussex Central), and Brandy Jester (2006-07, Sussex Central) 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.