Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

FLINT RIVER ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® GEORGIA 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 Meghan Gregg of Flint River Academy as its 2013-14 Gatorade Georgia Softball Player of the Year. Gregg is the first Gatorade Georgia Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Flint River Academy.

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 Gregg as Georgia's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Gregg 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-9 senior shortstop led the Wildcats (21-5) to the Georgia Independent School Association Class AA state championship this past season, the team's third in four seasons. The two-time GISA Player of the Year, Gregg batted .766 with seven home runs, 31 RBI and an on-base percentage of .830. She is a five-time All-State honoree.

Gregg has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. Also a basketball and track standout as well as president of her school's Key Club, she has volunteered locally on behalf of youth sports programs and the Empty Stocking Fund, which provides Christmas gifts for needy families.

"Meghan Gregg can do whatever she wants on the softball field," said Joey Hiller, head coach at Tattnall Square Academy. "She has phenomenal arm strength, a great glove and outstanding speed. She can hit and she can hit for power. She just plays the game differently than other people."

Gregg has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at the University of Tennessee 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.

Gregg joins recent Gatorade Georgia Softball Players of the Year Megan Betsa (2012-13, Union Grove High School), Geri Ann Glasco (2011-12, Oconee County High School), Kelsey Mericka (2010-11, Kell High School), Lori Spingola (2009-10, Marist School), Hope Rush (2008-09, Eagle's Landing Christian Academy), Kelli Wheeler (2007-08, Lassiter), and Alicia Mills (2006-07, Sequoyah) 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.