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WHITE MOUNTAINS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 Erika Millett of White Mountains Regional High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade New Hampshire Softball Player of the Year. Millett is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from White Mountains Regional 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 Millett as New Hampshire's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Millett 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-10 senior right-handed pitcher and first baseman led the Spartans to a 16-0 record and a berth in the Division III state tournament, scheduled to begin June 3. Millett owned a 13-0 record with a 1.35 ERA and 115 strikeouts in 81 innings pitched through 16 games. A two-time First Team All-State selection, she also batted .475 with a home run, eight RBI and a .522 on-base percentage.

Millett has maintained a 3.22 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots Foundation, as an event organizer for her class and as a youth softball coach.

"Erika Millett is an extremely dominant pitcher who exhibits both emotional and physical control on the mound," said Skip Dubois, head coach at Franklin High. "She utilizes a well-controlled fastball ranging approximately 60 mph along with a seasoned curve and a knee buckling change-up. She displays sportsmanship at all times and has continued to work at pitching extensively during the off-season throughout her high school career."

 $\label{eq:milest_maine} \mbox{Millett will attend the University of Southern Maine, where she will play softball this fall.}$

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.

Millett joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Softball Players of the Year Katelyn Kennard (2012-13, Concord High School), Taylor Carbone (2011-12 & 2010-11, Alvirne High School), Kelsey Martel (2009-10, Concord), Paige Hansen (2008-09, Concord), and Amanda Barton (2007-08 & 2006-07, Franklin) 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.