## Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

## BROCKPORT HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NEW YORK SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 5, 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 Julia DiMartino of Brockport High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade New York Softball Player of the Year. DiMartino is the first Gatorade New York Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Brockport 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 DiMartino as New York's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, DiMartino 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 has led the Blue Devils to a 21-1 record and a berth in the Class AA state quarterfinals, scheduled for June 6. DiMartino owned a 17-1 record and a 0.06 ERA entering the state tournament, striking out 271 batters while scattering 23 hits and 16 walks. She also hit .351 through 22 games with 23 RBI. DiMartino is a two-time First Team All-State selection and was the Greater Rochester Co-Player of the Year as a sophomore.

DiMartino has maintained a B average in the classroom. A devoted member of her church community, she has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and has fundraised to benefit breast cancer awareness.

"DiMartino has dominated the game like no one I've seen since we moved to 43 feet," said Amy Centola, head coach at Hilton High. "Her numbers on the mound are jaw-dropping, and she's also a great hitter and a very tough out at the plate."

DiMartino will begin her senior year of high school this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

DiMartino joins recent Gatorade New York Softball Players of the Year Sydney O'Hara (2012-13, Cicero-North Syracuse High School), Kristen Brown (2011-12, MacArthur High School), Marissa Diescher (2010-11, Livingston Manor High School), Tammy Wray (2009-10, Somers), Olivia Galati (2008-09, St. John the Baptist), Cassie Reilly-Boccia (2007-08, Yorktown), and Chelsea Plimpton (2006-07, Williamsville South) 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.