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

CHICAGO (May 28, 2015) — In its 30th 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 2014-15 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 Jon Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Prep, Wash.).

The state's returning Gatorade Baseball Player of the Year had led the Hawks to a 15-0 record at the time of his selection. A 6-foot-1, 205-pound senior catcher, Martellini batted .500 with one home run and 21 RBI through 15 games. The Perfect Game USA Preseason Honorable Mention All-American also scored 12 runs and worked 14 walks, recording a .607 on-base percentage. A returning First Team All-State honoree, he started for Bishop Hendricken's 2013 Division I state championship team as a sophomore.

Martellini has maintained a 3.06 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 is an outstanding catching prospect," said Bishop Hendricken head coach Ed Holloway. "He is big and strong and has very good baseball skills. He has a strong, accurate arm. And he receives and blocks well. He has tremendous upside, since this is only his third year catching. He hits for power, average and is a clutch RBI hitter. He has matured so much as a player and person over the last year."

Martellini has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Boston College 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.

Two-time winner 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 & 2006-07, 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.

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