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

CHICAGO (June 4, 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 Regan Green of Laurel High School as its 2014-15 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 state's returning Gatorade Softball Player of the Year, Green posted an 18-3 record with a 0.53 ERA and 322 strikeouts against just 13 walks in 145 innings pitched this past season, leading the Bulldogs (18-3) to the state semifinals. The 5-foot-6 senior right-handed pitcher and first baseman batted .409 with six home runs, 19 runs scored and 20 RBI. A two-time returning First Team All-State selection as named by The News Journal, Green recorded a .453 on-base percentage and .818 slugging percentage. She led Laurel to back-to-back state championships in 2013 and 2014 as a sophomore and junior.

Green has maintained a 3.38 GPA in the classroom and has served as president of her school's National Honor Society chapter. In addition to donating her time as a youth softball instructor, she has volunteered locally at the Laurel Senior Center and as an elementary school classroom assistant.

"I've never seen anybody as good as Regan in 20 years," said Pete Boyer, head coach of rival Padua Academy. "We only managed two hits off her in our state tournament game. Not only is Green a First Team All-State pitcher, but she also hit a ball 20 feet beyond the fence like it was nothing, so we intentionally walked her the two other times. Like I told the paper afterward, 'If she was up with the bases loaded, I'd still intentionally walk her.' What Green can do is really special."

Green has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at Mississippi State University 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 Green joins 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.