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**CHRISTIAN BROTHERS COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MISSOURI BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 21, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Christian Little of Christian Brothers College High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Missouri Baseball Player of the Year. Little is the first Gatorade Missouri Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Christian Brothers College 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 Little as Missouri's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Little joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo High School, Mich.), Jon Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Preparatory School, Wash.), David Price (2003-04, Blackman High School, Tenn.), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas), Rick Porcello (2006-2007, Seaton Hall Preparatory School, N.J.) and Kris Bryant (2009-10, Bonanza High School, Nev.).

The 6-foot-4, 215-pound junior right-handed pitcher is the nation's No. 2 prospect in the Class of 2021 as rated by Perfect Game and Prep Baseball Report. A 2019 and 2020 Under Armour All-American Game selection, Little compiled a 6-1 record with nine saves with a 1.88 ERA and 58 strikeouts in 44.2 innings in 2019. He was a 2018 U17 USA National Team gold medalist and a 2019 Perfect Game All-American.

Little has volunteered locally on behalf of the St. Louis Children's Hospital and as a youth mentor and baseball coach. "Christian Little is a tremendous talent," said Christian Brothers High head coach Mason Horne. "His work ethic and leadership qualities are off the charts. He is a fierce competitor who hates to lose and is a great teammate."

Little has maintained a 3.02 GPA in the classroom. He has verbally committed to play baseball on scholarship at Vanderbilt University beginning in the fall of 2021.

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 and field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Little joins recent Gatorade Missouri Baseball Players of the Year Luke Mann (2017-18, St. John Vianney High School), Grant Wood (2016-17, Jefferson City High School), Jake Matheny (2015-16, Westminster Christian Academy) and Jeremy Eierman (2014-15, Warsaw High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.