

## HUNTINGTON BEACH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE CALIFORNIA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (May 23, 2019) — In its 34<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced **Josh Hahn of Huntington Beach High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade California Baseball Player of the Year**. Hahn is the second Gatorade California Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Huntington Beach 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 Hahn as California'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, Hahn 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, 195-pound senior left-handed pitcher, first baseman and outfielder led the Oilers (25-7) to the Division I CIF Southern Section semifinals this past season, compiling a 5-1 record on the mound with three saves, a 0.72 ERA and 49 strikeouts in 37.2 innings, holding opposing hitters to a .177 average. A two-time Sunset League MVP and the state's No. 8 prep prospect as rated by Prep Baseball Report, Hahn also batted .376 with nine home runs, 33 RBI and 23 runs scored, slugging .752 in the process.

Hahn has volunteered at a local senior center and as a youth baseball coach. "Josh Hahn is a complete player," said Huntington Beach head coach Benji Medure. "He can beat you on the mound, at the plate and on the basepaths. He can take over any given game all by himself."

Hahn has maintained a 3.64 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at UCLA beginning this fall, but is projected as an early round selection in June's Major League Baseball draft.

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. 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.

Hahn joins recent Gatorade California Baseball Players of the Year Cole Winn (2017-18, Orange Lutheran High School), Royce Lewis (2016-17, JSerra Catholic High School), Mickey Moniak (2015-16, La Costa Canyon High School), Joe DeMers (2014-15, College Park High School), and Jack Flaherty (2013-14, Harvard-Westlake School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Hahn also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

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](http://www.Gatorade.com/POY), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY](http://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Gatorade](http://www.twitter.com/Gatorade).

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