

## SUSSEX TECH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DELAWARE 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 **Matt Warrington of Sussex Tech High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year**. Warrington is the first Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Sussex Tech 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 Warrington as Delaware'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, Warrington 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, 190-pound senior shortstop and right-handed pitcher had led the Ravens (13-4) to the state tournament at the time of his selection. A 2018 Second Team All-State selection, Warrington compiled a 5-0 record on the hill with a 0.60 ERA and 82 strikeouts in 47 innings, issuing just 18 walks. He also batted .350 with 17 runs scored and 16 RBI through 17 games.

A devoted parishioner at the Hickory Hill United Methodist Church, Warrington has volunteered locally on behalf of a food pantry and as a youth baseball coach. "Matt Warrington is a game-changing pitcher," said Kyle McGuire, head coach at Woodbridge High. "He is the kind of player that stands out on a baseball field from the time he starts his warm-ups to the end of the game. You can see that Matt is a difference-maker on the mound. He is a phenomenal student-athlete."

Warrington has maintained an 88.4 average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Wilmington University beginning 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. 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.

Warrington joins recent Gatorade Delaware Baseball Players of the Year Zack Gelof (2017-18, Cape Henlopen High School), Ryan Steckline (2016-17, Appoquinimink High School), Jordan Hutchins (2015-16, Dover High School), Brandon Fraley (2014-15, Caravel Academy), and Dominic DiSabatino (2013-14, St. Mark's High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Warrington 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](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Gatorade](https://www.twitter.com/Gatorade).

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