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CHERRY CREEK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE COLORADO 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 **Jack Moss of Cherry Creek High School** as its **2019-20 Gatorade Colorado Baseball Player of the Year.** Moss is the first Gatorade Colorado Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Cherry Creek 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 Moss as Colorado's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Baseball Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Moss 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-5, 200-pound senior first baseman and outfielder was named to the 2019 Area Code Games All-Tournament team by Baseball America in August. Moss hit .500 with four doubles, four RBI and a .875 slugging percentage over four games with just two strikeouts in 16 at-bats. A 2020 Perfect Game Preseason All-American, Moss posted a .490 batting average in 2019 for Cherry Creek with 31 RBI, 30 runs, 13 doubles and a .710 slugging percentage.

The Cherry Creek High 2020 Male Student Athlete of the Year, Moss was the president of his school's Student Athletic Advisory Committee. He has volunteered locally with Habitat for Humanity and at a homeless shelter and food bank. "Jack is one of the hardest workers I have ever coached," said Marc Johnson, head coach of Cherry Creek High. "He is always honing his craft. He realizes if he is not getting better, someone else is. He takes pride in getting bigger, faster and stronger."

Moss has maintained a weighted 3.92 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play baseball on scholarship at Arizona State University.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Moss joins recent Gatorade Colorado Baseball Players of the Year Justin Olson (2017-18, Pine Creek High School), Cole Winn (2016-17, Silver Creek High School), Paul Tillotson (2015-16, Lewis-Palmer High School), and Ryan Madden (2014-15, Fairview 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 <u>www.Gatorade.com/POY</u>, on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> or follow us on Twitter at <u>www.twitter.com/Gatorade</u>.