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**WESTERN DUBUQUE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE IOWA 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 **Calvin Harris of Western Dubuque High School** as its **2019-20 Gatorade Iowa Baseball Player of the Year**. Harris is the first Gatorade Iowa Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Western Dubuque 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 Harris as Iowa'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, Harris 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-1, 205-pound senior catcher and right-handed pitcher led the Bobcats (32-10) to the Class 4A state quarterfinals this past season, batting .408 with seven home runs and 40 RBI. The state's returning Gatorade Baseball Player of the Year, Harris also posted a 3-1 record on the mound with a 1.07 ERA, striking out 63 batters in 32.2 innings pitched, while walking just 13. A three-time member of the Iowa High School Baseball Coaches Association Super Team, he is also a Rawlins-Perfect Game 2020 Preseason Second Team All-American.

Harris has volunteered locally on behalf of a pediatric hospital and youth sports programs. "Harris makes whatever sport he's playing look incredibly easy," said Kyle Rodenkirk, head coach at Linn-Mar High. "He's a dominant hitter, pitcher and catcher, as well as quarterback and basketball player."

Harris has maintained a 3.76 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Mississippi.

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.

Harris joins recent Gatorade Iowa Baseball Players of the Year Connor Van Scoyand (2017-18, Jefferson High School), John Swanda (2016-17, Roosevelt High School), Grant Judkins (2015-16, Pella High School) and Robert Neustrom (2014-15, North 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.

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