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ST. MARY'S PREPARATORY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MICHIGAN 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 **Logan Wood of St. Mary's Preparatory** as its **2019-20 Gatorade Michigan Baseball Player of the Year**. Wood is the first Gatorade Michigan Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Mary's Preparatory.

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 Wood as Michigan'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, Wood 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-2, 200-pound senior left-handed pitcher is ranked as the nation's No. 31 lefty in the Class of 2020 by Prep Baseball Report, having compiled a career record of 23-5 with 324 strikeouts in 212.2 innings pitched. A two-time All-State Dream Team selection, Wood led the Eaglets to the Division 2 state title a year ago and was named a 2020 Preseason All-American by both Collegiate Baseball News and Perfect Game. A member of 2019 Perfect Game WWBA and Perfect Game Elite national championship squads, Wood hurled 16 innings in elite tournament play last summer, surrendering just four hits while striking out 19 batters. He posted a 0.00 ERA in Perfect Game competitions. He was also a 2019 Area Code Games participant and a 2020 PBR Super 60 participant. In his final two high school starts, both in the 2019 postseason, he pitched a combined 14.2 scoreless innings, surrendering four hits and fanning 19.

Wood has volunteered locally on behalf of the Miracle League of Michigan and a local church. He has also donated his time making care packages for active-duty military and instructing youth baseball players both indoors and outdoors. "Logan Wood has been one of the top players in the state since his freshman year in high school," said Aaron Wilson, Michigan Scouting Director for the Prep Baseball Report. "If he'd played this season, he would've been the first ever three-time All-State Dream Team selection in history. He won a state title as a junior, and was the top pitcher on that team. He's easily the best arm in Michigan. Although he's a great pitcher, the thing that stands out most about him is his character. An extremely respectful young man that has always been willing to lend a helping hand, whether that's to a teammate or giving back to area youth."

Wood has maintained a 3.23 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Michigan.

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.

Wood joins recent Gatorade Michigan Baseball Players of the Year Spencer Schwellenbach (2017-18, Heritage High School), Steve Mann (2016-17, Detroit Country Day School), Tommy Henry (2015-16, Portage Northern High School) and Luke Shilling (2014-15, Notre Dame Preparatory 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>.

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