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**ST. CLAIR HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MICHIGAN BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 1, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Joel Seddon of St. Clair High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Michigan Baseball Player of the Year. Seddon is the first Gatorade Michigan Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Clair 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 Seddon as Michigan's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in June, Seddon joins an elite alumni association of past state baseball award winners, including Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Roy Halladay (1994-95, Arvada West HS, Colo.), David Price (2003-04, Blackman HS, Tenn.), Chipper Jones (1989-90, Bolles School, Fla.), Derek Lee (1992-93, El Camino HS, Calif.) and John Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Prep, Wash.).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-1, 170-pound senior right-handed pitcher and shortstop had led the Saints to a 21-1 record and first place in the Macomb Area Conference Blue Division. Seddon owned a 7-0 record on the mound with a 0.87 ERA, holding opposing hitters to a .135 batting average through his first nine starts. A two-time conference MVP, Seddon was batting .378 with a home run and 12 RBIs through 22 games as St. Clair has clinched a berth in the Division II state tournament, scheduled to begin June 17.

Seddon has maintained a 4.05 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the American Red Cross, the March of Dimes and as an elementary school motivational guest speaker.

"Joel Seddon is a tremendous baseball player," said Adam Hoskins, head coach of rival Landmark Academy. "He plays the game with a ton of skill and competitiveness and he certainly has the drive to succeed. I will be relieved when he is suiting up for the South Carolina Gamecocks next season and not the St. Clair Saints."

Seddon has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of South Carolina 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. The selection process is administered by ESPN RISE and the Gatorade high school sports leadership team, which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Seddon joins recent Gatorade Michigan Baseball Players of the Year Jack Livingston (2009-10, Portage Northern), Pat Biondi (2008-09; Divine Child), Tyler Mills (2007-08, Mt. Pleasant), and D.J. LeMahieu (2006-07, Brother Rice), among the state's list of former award winners.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners, and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com.

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