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MOUNTAIN HOME HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® ARKANSAS BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 30, 2012) — In its 27th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Trey Killian of Mountain Home High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Arkansas Baseball Player of the Year. Killian is the first Gatorade Arkansas Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Mountain Home 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 Killian as Arkansas' best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Killian 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.).

The 6-foot-3, 190-pound senior right-handed pitcher posted an 8-1 record on the mound along with a 0.88 ERA and 138 strikeouts in 64 innings this past season, leading the Bombers (17-15) to the Class 6A quarterfinals. A 2011 First Team All-State selection and a 2011 Under Armour All-American, Killian also batted .303 with 23 runs-scored and nine stolen bases in nine attempts.

Killian has maintained a 3.14 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of his church community, he has volunteered locally on behalf of fundraising initiatives to benefit cancer research and assisted in relief efforts for area flood victims.

"Trey Killian is a true competitor," said Jerome Harper, head coach at Hall High. "He is all about making his team better and doing whatever it takes to win."

Killian has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at the University of Arkansas this fall, but is projected as an early round selection in next month's Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft.

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 ESPNHS 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.

Killian joins recent Gatorade Arkansas Baseball Players of the Year Dillon Howard (2010-11, Searcy High School), Brandon Moore (2009-10, Van Buren), D.J. Baxendale (2008-09; Sylvan Hills), Tyler Wilson (2007-08, Greenwood), and Scott Sammons (2006-07, Searcy), 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.