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**BRIEN MCMAHON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® CONNECTICUT BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 30, 2012) — In its 27<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Bryan Daniello of Brien McMahon High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Connecticut Baseball Player of the Year. Daniello is the first Gatorade Connecticut Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Brien McMahon 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 Daniello as Connecticut's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Daniello 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 5-foot-10, 165-pound senior shortstop/right-handed pitcher led the Senators to a 16-7 record entering the Class LL playoffs against New Milford, scheduled for May 29. Daniello owned a 7-1 record and a 1.35 ERA on the mound along with a .400 batting average with six home runs and 18 RBI at the plate through 23 games. He was a First Team All-State selection and the Fairfield County Interscholastic Athletic Conference Player of the Year as a junior.

Daniello has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of an area soup kitchen, youth baseball camps and his church's Bible camp.

"Daniello is fast, he plays a great shortstop and he has tremendous power," said Mark Caron, head coach at Fairfield Warde High. "I think he's the best player we've seen all year."

Daniello has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Connecticut 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 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.

Daniello joins recent Gatorade Connecticut Baseball Players of the Year Sal Romano (2010-11, Southington High School), Colin O'Keefe (2009-10, Waterford), Matt Carasiti (2008-09; Berlin), Jason Esposito (2007-08, Amity), and Matt Harvey (2006-07, Fitch), 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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