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**ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEW JERSEY 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 Robert Kaminsky of St. Joseph Regional High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade New Jersey Baseball Player of the Year. Kaminsky is the first Gatorade New Jersey Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Joseph Regional 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 Kaminsky as New Jersey's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Kaminsky 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, 188-pound junior left-handed pitcher led the Green Knights to a 20-5 record entering the Non-Public, North A tournament quarterfinals, scheduled for May 29. A Preseason First Team All-American as named by Perfect Game USA, Kaminsky owned a 7-1 record with a 0.00 ERA and 90 strikeouts against just 13 walks in 46 innings pitched through his first 25 games. He threw six shutouts and three no-hitters in his first eight starts. Also a centerfielder, Kaminsky batted .416 with one home run and 18 RBI. A returning First Team All-Bergen County selection, he produced a .597 slugging percentage.

Kaminsky has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has donated his time at a local food pantry and volunteered on behalf of the Ho-Ho-Kus Volunteer Ambulance Corps as an EMT.

"He has displayed the will to win," said Scott Luna, head coach at rival Paramus Catholic High. "He has displayed professionalism on and off the field. He has respect for his teammates as well as opposing players and their coaches. His approach to the game and his work ethic is outstanding."

Kaminsky will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Kaminsky joins recent Gatorade New Jersey Baseball Players of the Year AJ Murray (2010-11, Westfield High School), Bryan Soloman (2009-10, Jackson Memorial), Mike Trout (2008-09; Millville), Quinton Miller (2007-08, Shawnee), and Rick Porcello (2006-07, Seton Hall Prep), 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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