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**WESTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® OREGON 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 Carson Kelly of Westview High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Oregon Baseball Player of the Year. Kelly is the third Gatorade Oregon Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Westview 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 Kelly as Oregon's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Kelly 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 state's returning Gatorade Baseball Player of the Year, Kelly posted a 6-3 record on the mound with a 1.09 ERA and 80 strikeouts against just seven walks in 58 innings pitched this past season, leading the Wildcats (18-9) to a berth in the Class 6A state tournament. The 6-foot-2, 210-pound senior infielder batted .398 with five home runs and 26 RBI. He produced a .747 slugging percentage and .514 on-base percentage. Kelly finished 3-0 with a 1.42 ERA and 21 strikeouts against three walks in 19 innings during the 2011 USA Baseball 18U National Team's gold medal run in the Pan American Games. The returning Class 6A Player of the Year, he led Westview to its first baseball state title in 2011 as a junior.

Kelly has maintained a 3.81 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has donated his time as a youth baseball instructor on behalf of USA Baseball and the Sun Creek Little League.

"As an athlete, he is outstanding," said Tim McSwain, head coach at rival Aloha High. "He's one of the best baseball players I have seen come through in a long time. He is a complete player—he can hit, play in the field and pitch."

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

Two time winner Kelly joins recent Gatorade Oregon Baseball Players of the Year Ben Wetzler (2009-10, Clackamas), Matt Maurer (2008-09; North Medford), Ryan Gorton (2007-08, Tigard), and Joey Mahalic (2006-07, Wilson), 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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