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**SPANISH FORK HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® UTAH 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 Kayden Porter of Spanish Fork High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Utah Baseball Player of the Year. Porter is the second Gatorade Utah Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Spanish Fork 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 Porter as Utah's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Porter 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-5, 240-pound senior right-handed pitcher, first baseman and outfielder batted .400 with 10 home runs and 31 RBIs, leading the Dons (21-5) to the Class 3A semifinals. The 2010-11 Gatorade Utah Baseball Player of the Year, Porter also posted a 5-0 record on the mound with a 1.75 ERA and 53 strikeouts in 40 innings. He scored 30 runs and compiled an .862 slugging percentage in 2012.

Porter has maintained a 3.80 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as a guest reader for elementary school students, as a youth softball coach and as part of a fundraising campaign to benefit breast cancer research.

"Kayden Porter is a man against boys," said Robert Ferneau, head coach at Layton High. "He is enormously talented and always plays hard which is why Spanish Fork is always as good as they are."

Porter has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at the University of North 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 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 Porter joins recent Gatorade Utah Baseball Players of the Year Adam Duke (2009-10, Spanish Fork), Marcus Littlewood (2007-08 & 2008-09; Pine View), and Tanner Robles (2006-07, Cottonwood), 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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