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Contact: Ashley Ginascol (312-729-3622)

**SITKA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® ALASKA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 28, 2013) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Erikson Fish of Sitka High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Alaska Baseball Player of the Year. Fish is the second Gatorade Alaska Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Sitka 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 Fish as Alaska's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Fish joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, 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.), Derrek Lee (1992-93, El Camino HS, Calif.) and John Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Prep, Wash.).

The 6-foot-3, 210-pound junior right-handed pitcher and first baseman has led the Wolves to a 13-4 record with the state tournament scheduled to begin May 30. At the time of his selection, Fish had posted a 5-1 record with a 2.33 ERA and 34 strikeouts in 24 innings. A 2012 First Team All-Conference selection, he also batted .469 with four home runs, 32 RBI and a .878 slugging percentage.

Fish has maintained a 3.47 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as a peer leader in his school community and as a youth baseball coach.

"Erikson Fish has excelled this season while playing against some of the best competition in the state," said Sitka head coach Ed Conway. "He has had a very impressive season and has been hitting at just a torrid pace."

Fish 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 the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](#), 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.

Fish joins recent Gatorade Alaska Baseball Players of the Year Zach Ferntheil (2011-12, Service High School), Adam Manzer (2010 - 11, West Anchorage High School), Dylan Baker (2009-10, Juneau-Douglas), Ross Venneberg (2008-09 Sitka), Joe Kohan (2007-08, Juneau-Douglas), and Ryan Skillern (2006-2007, South) 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 www.gatorade.com/poy.

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