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**FAYETTEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® ARKANSAS 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 Carson Shaddy of Fayetteville High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Arkansas Baseball Player of the Year. Shaddy is the first Gatorade Arkansas Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Fayetteville 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 Shaddy as Arkansas's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Shaddy 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 5-foot-10, 170-pound senior catcher led the Bulldogs (22-2) to the Class 7A state championship this past season. Shaddy batted .426 with three home runs, 24 runs, 18 RBI and a .765 slugging percentage. A two-time First Team All-Conference selection, he threw out 9-of-12 base-runners and handled a pitching staff that surrendered 2.5 runs per game.

Shaddy has maintained a 3.25 GPA in the classroom. A member of DECA, he has volunteered locally on behalf of the Salvation Army and his church bible study group.

"Carson Shaddy is an outstanding baseball player with the ability to play multiple positions on the field," said Todd Abbott, head coach at Bentonville High. "He has a great attitude and sportsmanship during competition. He is a leader on the field through words and action."

Shaddy has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at Crowder College 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.

Shaddy joins recent Gatorade Arkansas Baseball Players of the Year Trey Killian (2011-12, Mountain Home High School), Dillon Howard (2010 - 11, Searcy High School), Brandon Moore (2009-10, Van Buren), D.J. Baxendale (2008-09, Sylvan Hills), Tyler Wilson (2007-08, Greenwood), and Scott Sammons (2006-2007, Searcy) 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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