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MARET SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 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 Andrew Culp of Maret School as its 2012-13 Gatorade District of Columbia Baseball Player of the Year. Culp is the second Gatorade District of Columbia Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Maret 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 Culp as District of Columbia's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Culp 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, 215-pound senior right-handed pitcher and first baseman led the Frogs (24-4) to the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Conference championship this past season. Culp posted a 5-0 record, a 1.74 ERA, 76 strikeouts in 41.1 innings and threw a pair of no-hitters in 2013. A three-time First Team All-Conference selection, he also batted .391 with 28 RBI, 24 runs and a .550 slugging percentage.

Culp has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has served as the head of his school's booster club and has volunteered locally as a youth volleyball coach.

"Andrew Culp has been the heart and soul of our team since he's been here," said Maret School head coach Antoine Williams. "He is a leader on and off the field and one of the finest players I've had the privilege to coach."

Culp has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at Tulane University 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.

Culp joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Baseball Players of the Year Danny O'Donnell (2011-12, St. John's College High School), Mark Williams (2010 – 11, Gonzaga College High School), Michael Bowie (2009-10, St. John's College), Matt Bowman (2008-09 St. Albans School), Danny Hultzen (2007-08, St. Albans School), and L.J. Hoes (2006-2007, St. John's College) 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.