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**SIoux CITY EAST HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® IOWA 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 Dom Thompson-Williams of Sioux City East High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Iowa Baseball Player of the Year. Thompson-Williams is the first Gatorade Iowa Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Sioux City East 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 Thompson-Williams as Iowa's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Thompson-Williams 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, 190-pound junior outfielder and right-handed pitcher batted .544 with 64 runs scored, 42 stolen bases, 30 RBI, 25 doubles and a .728 slugging percentage, leading the Black Raiders (34-9) to the Class 4A sub-state final this past season. A two-time First Team All-State selection, Thompson-Williams also posted a 6-3 record, a 2.49 ERA and had 61 strikeouts in 54 innings pitched.

Thompson-Williams has maintained a 3.33 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the Boys and Girls Club of America and as a youth football coach in addition to assisting with community clean-up initiatives following a tornado that struck Mapleton, Iowa in 2011.

"Dom Thompson-Williams is an extremely hard working individual who is constantly trying to improve himself as both a student and as an athlete," said Sioux City East head coach Jared Ocker. "Not only is he an outstanding athlete and a good student, he also has very good people skills and has learned how to be a good teammate."

Thompson-Williams has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball and football on an athletic scholarship at Iowa Western Community 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.

Thompson-Williams joins recent Gatorade Iowa Baseball Players of the Year Calvin Mathews (2011-12, Davis County High School), Austin Christensen (2010 - 11, Kennedy High School), Damek Tomscha (2009-10, North), Dean McArdle (2008-09 North), B.J. Hermsen (2007-08, West Delaware), and Jon Gilmore (2006-2007, City) 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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