

Contact: Ashley Ginascol (312-729-3622)

**CENTRAL CASS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NORTH DAKOTA 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 Ellery Bresnahan of Central Cass High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Player of the Year. Bresnahan is the first Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Central Cass 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 Bresnahan as North Dakota's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Bresnahan 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-8 senior outfielder and catcher led the Squirrels to a 10-4 record and a berth in the Class B state tournament, scheduled to begin May 30. Bresnahan batted .512 while collecting 13 stolen bases, seven RBI and seven extra-base hits through 14 games, also scoring 23 runs. On the mound as a left-handed pitcher, Bresnahan owned a 3-0 record with a 0.43 ERA and 28 strikeouts in 16.1 innings-pitched. A two-time American Legion Class B state champion, he finished 5-1 with 64 strikeouts in 30 innings-pitched as a junior last season.

Also a football, basketball and golf standout, Bresnahan has maintained a 3.04 weighted GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society and the DECA organization, he has volunteered on behalf of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and as a Youth Frontiers Courage Retreat leader.

"He can do it all," said Scott Milbrandt, head coach of rival Kindred/Richland High. "If he isn't pitching, he will catch. You won't steal on him, as his arm is a cannon. He will also play center and can cover a lot of ground with his speed. Offensively, you do not want him to get on base ever. He will steal second easily, and I have even seen him steal third if he gets a good read on the pitcher. He is fun to watch when we are not playing them—not so much fun when you are playing them."

Bresnahan has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of North Dakota 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.

Bresnahan joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Players of the Year Andy Young (2011-12, West Fargo High School), David Ernst (2010 - 11 & 2009-10, Fargo South High School), Cole Frenzel (2008-09 Dickinson), Zac Elgie (2007-08, Minot), and Tanner Lorenz (2006-2007, Harvey) 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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