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**ST. PIUS X HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® TEXAS BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 28, 2013) — In its 28<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Kohl Stewart of St. Pius X High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Texas Baseball Player of the Year. Stewart is the first Gatorade Texas Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Pius X 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 Stewart as Texas's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Stewart 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, 205-pound senior right-handed pitcher, shortstop and outfielder posted a 5-1 record, a 0.18 ERA and 59 strikeouts in 40 innings, leading the Panthers (24-13) to the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools championship game this past season. A three-time First Team All-State selection, Stewart also batted .384 with 10 home runs, 34 RBI, 20 runs scored and a .779 slugging percentage. He is ranked No. 3 in the nation by Perfect Game USA and No. 6 by MaxPreps.com.

Stewart has maintained a 3.64 GPA in the classroom. A devoted parishioner in his church community, he has volunteered locally as a peer tutor and as a youth sports coach.

"Kohl Stewart is a phenomenal young player," said Tom Collins, president of the Texas Baseball Coaches Association. "Most of the coaches I've talked to say he is comparable to a young Josh Beckett. He has a very bright future ahead of him."

Stewart has signed a National Letter of Intent to play football on an athletic scholarship at Texas A & M University this fall but is projected as an early round selection in next month's Major League Baseball First-Year Player Draft.

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.

Stewart joins recent Gatorade Texas Baseball Players of the Year Courtney Hawkins (2011-12, Carroll High School), Josh Bell (2010 - 11, Jesuit College Preparatory School), Jameson Taillon (2009-10, The Woodlands), Shelby Miller (2008-09 Brownwood), Taylor Jungmann (2007-08, Georgetown), and Blake Beavan (2006-2007, Irving) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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