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**KENTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® WASHINGTON 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 Reese McGuire of Kentwood High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Washington Baseball Player of the Year. McGuire is the first Gatorade Washington Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Kentwood 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 McGuire as Washington's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, McGuire 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, 195-pound senior catcher led the Mustangs to a 21-5 record and the Class 4A semifinals, scheduled for May 24. At the time of his selection, McGuire was batting .417 with three home runs, 29 runs scored, 16 RBI, nine stolen bases and a .778 slugging percentage. A 2012 First Team All-State selection, he is ranked No. 7 in the nation by both Perfect Game USA and MaxPreps.com.

McGuire has maintained a 3.17 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of a children's hospital, as a youth baseball instructor and umpire and as part of multiple community service initiatives in association with his church youth group.

"I've been in this league for 10 years and I've never seen a more polished high school player than Reese McGuire," said Tim Akins, head coach at Kent Meridian High. "He's the most well-rounded player I can recall and is exceptional both defensively and with the bat. He plays the game hard at all times and always carries himself with class on the field."

McGuire has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at the University of San Diego 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.

McGuire joins recent Gatorade Washington Baseball Players of the Year Trevor Lane (2011-12, Mount Si High School), Trevor Mitsui (2010 - 11, Shorewood High School), Drew Vettleson (2009-10 & 2008-09, Central Kitsap), Rusty Shellhorn (2007-08, Central Valley), and Greg Peavey (2006-2007, Hudson's Bay) 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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