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**MONROE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® ALASKA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 27, 2014) — — In its 29<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 Scooter Bynum of Monroe Catholic High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Alaska Baseball Player of the Year. Bynum is the first Gatorade Alaska Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Monroe Catholic 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 Bynum as Alaska's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Bynum 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.), Derek Lee (1992-93, El Camino HS, Calif.) and John Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Prep, Wash.).

The 6-foot-1, 185-pound senior centerfielder has led the Rams to a 3-4 record with the state tournament scheduled to begin June 5. At the time of his selection, Bynum had batted .467 with a pair of home runs, nine runs scored, eight RBI and five stolen bases through seven games. He has produced a 1.333 slugging percentage and a .680 on-base percentage in 2014. A multi-sport standout, Bynum was also the 2013-14 Gatorade Alaska Boys Basketball Player of the Year. He becomes the nation's fourth student-athlete in the Gatorade award program's 29-year history to win State Player of the Year honors in both baseball and basketball.

Bynum has maintained a 3.18 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society and a tutor in his school, he has assisted in a first-grade classroom and has volunteered preparing meals for the needy.

"Scooter Bynum is one of the most God-gifted athletes I've seen," said Monroe Catholic High head coach Dan Clark. "He does all facets of the game really well—throwing, fielding, and of course, hitting. His success with other sports again emphasizes this. If he took up diving right now, he'd probably be competing for a state championship in that event in a couple of months."

Bynum has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at Arizona Western 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.

Bynum joins recent Gatorade Alaska Baseball Players of the Year Erickson Fish (2012-13, Sitka High School), Zach Ferntheil (2011-12, Service High School), Adam Manzer (2010 - 11, West Anchorage High School), Dylan Baker (2009-10, Juneau-Douglas), Ross Venneberg (2008-09, Sitka), Joe Kohan (2007-08, Juneau-Douglas), and Ryan Skillern (2006-2007, South) 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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