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REGIS JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® COLORADO BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 27, 2014) — In its 29^{th} year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Max George of Regis Jesuit High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Colorado Baseball Player of the Year. George is the first Gatorade Colorado Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Regis Jesuit 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 George as Colorado's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, George 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 5-foot-10, 175-pound senior shortstop led the Raiders to a 20-4 record and the double-elimination Class 5A state tournament semifinals, scheduled for May 23. A Perfect Game Third Team All-American, George batted .478 with three home runs, nine doubles, 24 RBI and 29 runs scored through 24 games. A two-time returning First Team All-Colorado selection as named by The Denver Post, he owned a .589 on-base percentage, .797 slugging percentage and .934 fielding percentage entering the state final four.

George has maintained a 3.14 GPA in the classroom. Also an accomplished pianist, he has completed more than 140 hours of community service in high school, volunteering as a youth football and baseball instructor, tutoring children and serving as a student ambassador.

"Some people are comparing him to Dustin Pedroia," said Marc Johnson, head coach at rival Cherry Creek High. "He can play, boy. He makes a tremendous impact. He's a hard-nosed player, and he makes things happen. He can flat-out hit. If I were to build around one player, it would be Max George."

George has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Oregon State 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.

George joins recent Gatorade Colorado Baseball Players of the Year Griffin Jax (2012-13, Cherry Creek High School), Ryan Warner (2011-12, Pine Creek High School), Greg Bird (2010 - 11, Grandview High School), Marco Gonzales (2009-10, Rocky Mountain), Bryan Peters (2008-09, Rocky Mountain), Andy Burns (2007-08, Rocky Mountain), and Matt Presley (2006-2007, Cheyenne Mountain) 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.