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ST. MARK'S HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® DELAWARE BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 27, 2014) — — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Dominic DiSabatino of St. Mark's High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year. DiSabatino is the fifth Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. Mark's 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 DiSabatino as Delaware's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, DiSabatino 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-3, 170-pound senior shortstop and right-handed pitcher led the Spartans to a 20-3 record and a berth in the state tournament, scheduled for May 24. At the time of his selection, DiSabatino owned a .452 batting average with six home runs, 19 RBIs, 17 runs scored and a .925 slugging percentage. A 2013 First Team All-Conference selection, he compiled a 1-0 record on the mound with a pair of saves and a 2.00 ERA in seven innings pitched through 23 games.

DiSabatino has maintained a 3.12 GPA in the classroom. He has participated in service-mission trips on behalf of his church and has volunteered locally as a summer camp counselor and youth baseball coach.

"Dominic DiSabatino has been a huge part of our success here as a three-year varsity starter," said St. Mark's head coach Matt Smith. "He has a strong arm, a powerful bat and has demonstrated dependability on the mound."

DiSabatino has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at the University of Maryland this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

DiSabatino joins recent Gatorade Delaware Baseball Players of the Year Pete Grasso (2012-13, A.I. duPont High School), Mitchell Moore (2011-12, Dover High School), Lincoln Lamberton (2010 - 11, Salesianum School), Taylor Mahoney (2009-10, St. Mark's), Eric Buckland (2008-09, Caravel Academy), and Derrik Gibson (2007-08 & 2006-2007, Seaford) 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.