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ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 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 A.J. Lee of St. John's College High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade District of Columbia Baseball Player of the Year. Lee is the first Gatorade District of Columbia Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from St. John's College 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 Lee as District of Columbia's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Lee 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, 170-pound senior shortstop and right-handed pitcher led the Cadets (23-6) to the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference championship this past season. The two-time First Team All-Conference selection, Lee batted .470 with 23 runs scored, 20 RBI, 15 doubles and 15 stolen bases while producing a .671 slugging percentage. A 2013 Washington Post First Team All-Met honoree, he also posted a 3-2 record on the mound with a 1.14 ERA and 41 strikeouts in 43 innings pitched.

Lee has maintained a 3.42 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at a nursing home in addition to working with special-needs athletes on behalf of the Miracle League.

"A.J. Lee is a tremendous two-way talent," said St. John's head coach Mark Gibbs. "He has been the consistent force in our offense all season, played high level defense at shortstop and solidified the pitching staff."

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

Lee joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Baseball Players of the Year Andrew Culp (2012-13, Maret School), Danny O'Donnell (2011-12, St. John's College High School), Mark Williams (2010 - 11, Gonzaga College High School), Michael Bowie (2009-10, St. John's College), Matt Bowman (2008-09, St. Albans School), Danny Hultzen (2007-08, St. Albans School), and L.J. Hoes (2006-2007, St. John's College) 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.