Contact: Jason Belenke (312-729-3631)

COEUR D'ALENE HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® IDAHO 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 Nick Nyquist of Coeur d'Alene High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Idaho Baseball Player of the Year. Nyquist is the third Gatorade Idaho Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Coeur d'Alene 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 Nyquist as Idaho's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Nyquist 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-2, 190-pound senior shortstop and right-handed pitcher batted .506 with six home runs, 35 runs scored and 30 RBI, leading the Vikings (20-6) to the first round of the Class 5A state tournament this past season. A 2013 First Team All-State selection and a 2013 Area Code Games participant, Nyquist produced a .567 on-base percentage, a .988 slugging percentage and stole 15 bases without being caught.

Nyquist has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the Salvation Army, Home Runs for Homeless and as a youth baseball coach.

"Nick Nyquist's attitude and effort are exceptional," said Coeur d'Alene head coach Nick Rook. "In my experience, his personality and skill-set are in the top five percent of the players who I have coached both at the high school and collegiate levels. His character is all that a coach can ask for and more."

Nyquist has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at Gonzaga University 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.

Nyquist joins recent Gatorade Idaho Baseball Players of the Year Levi Pereira (2012-13, Coeur d'Alene High School), Bryce Feist (2011-12, Rocky Mountain High School), Cy Sneed (2010 - 11, Twin Falls High School), Devon Austin (2009-10, Coeur d'Alene), Jacob Coats (2008-09, Twin Falls), Sean McDonald (2007-08, Boise), and Josh Osich (2006-2007, Bishop Kelly) 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.