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**HENDERSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® KENTUCKY 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 Kaleb Duckworth of Henderson County High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Kentucky Baseball Player of the Year. Duckworth is the first Gatorade Kentucky Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Henderson County 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 Duckworth as Kentucky's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Duckworth 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, 190-pound senior third baseman and outfielder has led the Colonels to a 22-12 record and a berth in the state tournament, scheduled to begin June 2. Duckworth owned a .447 batting average with seven home runs, 40 runs, 35 RBI and an .868 slugging percentage through 34 games. A 2013 First Team All-State selection, he also produced a .656 on-base percentage and stole 38 bases while being caught only twice.

Duckworth has maintained a 3.84 in the classroom. A member of the Future Business Leaders of America, he has volunteered locally on behalf of the Salvation Army and multiple canned food drives for families in need.

"Kaleb Duckworth is the best individual player we have played against all year," said Geno Miller, head coach at McCracken High. "He displays power, speed, and arm strength that is off the charts. He carries himself in a very professional way."

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

Duckworth joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Baseball Players of the Year Drew Harrington (2012-13, Central Hardin High School), Ryne Combs (2011-12, Bryan Station High School), Zach Lucas (2010 - 11, Butler Traditional High School), Trevor Gott (2009-10, Tates Creek), Luke Maile (2008-09, Covington Catholic), Robbie Ross (2007-08, Lexington Christian Academy), and Ben Revere (2006-2007, Lexington Catholic) 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.