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**RESERVOIR HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MARYLAND 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 Cody Morris of Reservoir High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Maryland Baseball Player of the Year. Morris is the first Gatorade Maryland Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Reservoir 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 Morris as Maryland's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Morris 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-4, 210-pound junior right-handed pitcher and first baseman led the Gators to a 22-2 record and a berth in the Class 3A state final, scheduled for May 24. At the time of his selection, Morris owned a 6-1 record with a 1.10 ERA, 81 strikeouts and just nine walks in 42 innings pitched. Ranked No. 26 in the nation in the class of 2015 by Perfect Game USA, he also batted .356 with 13 runs scored, 10 RBI and a .554 on-base percentage through 24 games.

Morris has maintained a 3.71 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as a mentor for children with special needs and as part of multiple community service initiatives in association with his church youth group.

"Cody Morris is as talented a kid as I've seen in a while," said Brian Culley, head coach at Mount Hebron High. "He just throws harder than any high school kid I have seen. He's a humble kid too. It would be very easy for a kid of that caliber to feel like he's entitled to things, but he's not that kid at all. He's just a super kid and an absolute bulldog competitor."

Morris has verbally committed to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at the University of South Carolina beginning in the fall of 2015.

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.

Morris joins recent Gatorade Maryland Baseball Players of the Year Alex Murphy (2012-13, Calvert Hall College High School), Kevin Mooney (2011-12, North Harford High School), Austin Neary (2010 - 11, Archbishop Spalding High School), Travis Clark (2009-10, Hammond), Jack Carey (2008-09, St. Paul's School), Kevin Brady (2007-08, Gaithersburg), and Joseph Yermal (2006-2007, McDonogh School) 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.

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