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**BRIDGEWATER-RAYNHAM REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT
NAMED GATORADE® MASSACHUSETTS 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 Joe Freiday of Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Massachusetts Baseball Player of the Year. Freiday is the first Gatorade Massachusetts Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Bridgewater-Raynham Regional 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 Freiday as Massachusetts's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Freiday 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, 225-pound senior catcher has led the Trojans to a 17-2-1 record and a berth in the inaugural Super 8 state tournament. Entering the postseason, Freiday owned a .483 batting average with seven home runs, 33 RBI and a slugging percentage of 1.052. A Brockton Enterprise All-Scholastic and a First Team All-Old Colony League selection as a junior, he is a Perfect Game Preseason High School First Team All-Northeast Region selection.

Freiday has maintained a 3.15 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally delivering holiday meals to the needy and providing Christmas gifts for hospitalized children.

"I think Freiday is the best player I've seen in Massachusetts in the last few years," said Bill Maloney, head coach at Brockton High. "He has a ton of power, and even his outs are hard-hit balls. You can't run on him at all because he's got such a good release, he's really accurate and he's probably throwing about 92 MPH down to second."

Freiday has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Virginia Tech 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.

Freiday joins recent Gatorade Massachusetts Baseball Players of the Year Ben Bowden (2012-13, Lynn English High School), Rhett Wiseman (2011-12, Buckingham Browne & Nichols), John Gorman (2010 - 11, Catholic Memorial School), Kevin Ziomek (2009-10, Amherst Regional), Kyle McKenzie (2008-09, Thayer Academy), Scott Weismann (2007-08, Acton-Boxborough), and Jack McGeary (2006-2007, Roxbury Latin 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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