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**CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® NEVADA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 27, 2014) — — In its 29<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Cooper Powell of Centennial High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Nevada Baseball Player of the Year. Powell is the first Gatorade Nevada Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Centennial 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 Powell as Nevada's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Powell 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 5-foot-10, 160-pound senior left-handed pitcher and outfielder led the Bulldogs to a 26-11 record and the Division I semifinals, scheduled for May 23. At the time of his selection, Powell owned a 9-1 record with a 2.95 ERA and 78 strikeouts in 73 innings. A two-time First Team All-State selection, he also batted .414 with 25 runs scored, 21 RBI and a .574 slugging percentage through 38 games.

Powell has maintained a 3.92 GPA in the classroom. A member of his school's Calculus Club, he has volunteered locally as a concession-stand worker, a youth baseball coach and on behalf of the Miracle League.

"Cooper Powell has become one of the greatest competitors I have had the opportunity to coach," said Centennial High head coach Charles Cerrone. "He is the unquestioned leader of our team. He not only performs at a high level, but he also has the ability to help raise the level of play of the players around him."

Powell will attend the University of Nevada, where he will play baseball 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.

Powell joins recent Gatorade Nevada Baseball Players of the Year Kenny Meimerstorf (2012-13, Bishop Gorman High School), Joey Gallo (2011-12, Bishop Gorman High School), Jake Hager (2010 - 11, Sierra Vista High School), Kris Bryant (2009-10, Bonanza), Jeff Malm (2008-09 & 2007-08, Bishop Gorman), and Taylor Cole (2006-2007, Bishop Gorman College Prep) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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