Contact: Jason Belenke (312-729-3631)

LOS ALAMOS HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NEW MEXICO 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 Jared Mang of Los Alamos High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade New Mexico Baseball Player of the Year. Mang is the first Gatorade New Mexico Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Los Alamos 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 Mang as New Mexico's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Mang 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, 190-pound junior shortstop, second baseman and right-handed pitcher batted .605 with two home runs, 44 RBI and 35 runs scored, leading the Hilltoppers (22-7) to the Class 4A quarterfinals this past season. The 2013 District 2-4A Player of the Year, Mang swiped 21 bases and slugged .926. He also posted an 8-2 record on the mound with a 1.01 ERA and 42 strikeouts in 55.2 innings pitched.

Mang has maintained a 3.84 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society, he has volunteered locally on behalf of the Natural Helpers peer leadership group.

"Not only is Jared Mang a great baseball player both offensively and defensively, but he also conducts himself with great class and sportsmanship," said Chris Trujillo, head coach at Atrisco Heritage Academy. "It was a real pleasure to watch him and I admire the way he plays the game."

Mang has verbally committed to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at the University of New Mexico 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.

Mang joins recent Gatorade New Mexico Baseball Players of the Year Andre Vigil (2012-13, Volcano Vista High School), Shilo McCall (2011-12, Piedra Vista High School), Blake Swihart (2010 - 11, Cleveland High School), Sam Wilson (2009-10, Eldorado), Max Walla (2008-09, Albuquerque Academy), Wade Hinkle (2007-08, Del Norte), and Richard Bohlken (2006-2007, La Cueva) 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.