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## FAIRVIEW HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® COLORADO BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 28, 2015) — In its 30<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 Ryan Madden of Fairview High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Colorado Baseball Player of the Year. Madden is the first Gatorade Colorado Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Fairview 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 Madden as Colorado's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Madden 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 Jon Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Prep, Wash.).

The 6-foot-3, 185-pound senior right-handed pitcher posted a 7-2 record with one save, a 1.41 ERA and 65 strikeouts against just 10 walks in 54.2 innings pitched this past season, leading the Knights (17-4) to the Class 5A district title game. Also a third baseman, Madden batted .446 with seven home runs, 29 RBI and 29 runs-scored. The Perfect Game USA Preseason Honorable Mention All-American recorded a .507 on-base percentage and .923 slugging percentage.

Madden has maintained a 4.46 weighted GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth baseball instructor, he has volunteered as a peer math and science tutor.

"Coaching against him the past four years, I've known Ryan Madden as a fierce competitor who is the catalyst for his team," said Ralph Garcia, head coach of rival Horizon High. "They feed off his emotion and energy. Watching this, it is easy to see the leadership qualities he possesses with his peers. Take away his pure baseball skill-set, and that would still be a kid I would want to surround myself with due to his passion and love of the sport."

Madden has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Oklahoma this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Madden joins recent Gatorade Colorado Baseball Players of the Year Max George (2013-14, Regis Jesuit High School), Griffin Jax (2012-13, Cherry Creek High School), Ryan Warner (2011-12, Pine Creek High School), Greg Bird (2010-11, Grandview High School), Marco Gonzales (2009-10, Rocky Mountain), Bryan Peters (2008-09, Rocky Mountain), Andy Burns (2007-08, Rocky Mountain), and Matt Presley (2006-07, Cheyenne Mountain) 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.