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CARAVEL ACADEMY STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® DELAWARE BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 28, 2015) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Brandon Fraley of Caravel Academy as its 2014-15 Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year. Fraley is the third Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Caravel Academy.

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 Fraley as Delaware's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Fraley 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, 190-pound junior outfielder and right-handed pitcher led the Buccaneers to a 13-4 record and a berth in the state tournament, scheduled for May 30. At the time of his selection, Fraley owned a 6-0 record on the mound with three saves and a 0.69 ERA. A 2015 Louisville Slugger Preseason All-American, he also struck out 74 batters in 40 innings while producing a .491 average and a .604 slugging percentage with the bat through 17 games.

Fraley has maintained a 3.35 GPA in the classroom. A member of the Caravel Academy Bible Club, he has volunteered locally on behalf of his church youth group in addition to serving as an instructional baseball league coach and umpire.

"We have seen a handful of Division I prospects this spring and Brandon Fraley is the best pitcher that we have faced," said Bruce Shatel, head coach at New Jersey's Delbarton High. "He just is on another level. He also is a very good offensive player."

Fraley will begin his senior year of high school 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.

Fraley joins recent Gatorade Delaware Baseball Players of the Year Dominic DiSabatino (2013-14, St. Mark's High School), Pete Grasso (2012-13, A.I. duPont High School), Mitchell Moore (2011-12, Dover High School), Lincoln Lamberton (2010-11, Salesianum School), Taylor Mahoney (2009-10, St. Mark's High School), Eric Buckland (2008-09, Caravel Academy), and Derrik Gibson (2007-08 & 2006-07, Seaford High 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.