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**CATHEDRAL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® INDIANA 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 Ashe Russell of Cathedral High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Indiana Baseball Player of the Year. Russell is the second Gatorade Indiana Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Cathedral 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 Russell as Indiana's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Russell 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.).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-4, 200-pound senior right-handed pitcher had led the Fighting Irish (20-1) to the Class 4A sectional tournament. Russell owned a 4-1 record, a 1.23 ERA and 53 strikeouts in 34 innings through 21 games. The state's returning Gatorade Baseball Player of the Year, he is ranked as the nation's No.7 recruit in the class of 2015 by Perfect Game USA.

Russell has maintained a B average in the classroom. He assisted victims and helped rebuild area damaged by a tornado in Henryville, Ind. and has also volunteered locally as a youth baseball coach and camp counselor.

"Ashe Russell was very polished on the mound and definitely looks the part of a top pitching prospect," said Brad King, head coach at New Castle High. "I have heard he touches the upper 90s with his fastball but I was more impressed by his slider. I would say it's the best that I've seen in my 13 years as a varsity head coach."

Russell has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Texas A&M University this fall, but is projected as an early round selection in June's Major League Baseball draft.

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.

Two-time winner Russell joins Gatorade Indiana Baseball Players of the Year Trey Ball (2012-13, New Castle High School), Will Coursen-Carr (2011-12, South Side High School), Dillon Peters (2010-11, Cathedral High School), Justin O'Conner (2009-10, Cowan), Cameron Perkins (2008-09, Southport), Alex Meyer (2007-08, Greensburg Community), and Jarrod Parker (2006-07, Norwell) 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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