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LOGAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® KENTUCKY 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 Caleb Bruner of Logan County High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Kentucky Baseball Player of the Year. Bruner is the first Gatorade Kentucky Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Logan County 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 Bruner as Kentucky's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Bruner 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-2, 185-pound senior right-handed pitcher and infielder has led the Cougars to a 24-9 record and a berth in the state tournament, scheduled to begin June 1. At the time of his selection, Bruner owned a 7-2 record with a 1.33 ERA and 99 strikeouts in 58 innings through 33 games. A 2014 First Team All-State selection, he has also batted .366 with four home runs, 31 RBI and a .535 slugging percentage.

Bruner has maintained a 3.90 in the classroom. A member of the Future Business Leaders of America, he has served as an elected member of the student council and volunteered locally as a youth baseball coach.

"Caleb Bruner is an absolute stud and an all-around ballplayer," said Matthew Baker, head coach at Todd County Central High. "He's the best player I've coached against thus far. Most importantly he seems to have a blast playing baseball."

Bruner has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Western Kentucky University 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.

Bruner joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Baseball Players of the Year Kaleb Duckworth (2013-14, Henderson County High School), Drew Harrington (2012-13, Central Hardin High School), Ryne Combs (2011-12, Bryan Station High School), Zach Lucas (2010-11, Butler Traditional High School), Trevor Gott (2009-10, Tates Creek), Luke Maile (2008-09, Covington Catholic), Robbie Ross (2007-08, Lexington Christian Academy), and Ben Revere (2006-07, Lexington Catholic) 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>.