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## WARSAW HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® MISSOURI 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 Jeremy Eierman of Warsaw High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Missouri Baseball Player of the Year. Eierman is the first Gatorade Missouri Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Warsaw 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 Eierman as Missouri's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Eierman 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-1, 195-pound senior shortstop led the Wildcats to a 20-2 record and the first round of the Class 3 state tournament. A two-time First Team All-State honoree, Eierman batted .513 with eight home runs, 32 RBI and a .568 on-base percentage through 22 games. The state's No. 2 prep prospect as rated by PrepBaseballReport.com, he had produced a 1.000 slugging percentage with 19 of his 39 hits going for extra bases.

Eierman has maintained a 3.09 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally assisting the elderly in his community, as a peer mentor and a youth baseball coach.

"Jeremy Eierman is a talented player with great upside," said Todd Rusk, head coach at Cole Camp High. "He was a player that we tried to avoid hitting the ball to at all costs and we were not too successful at it. He has all the tools to play at the next level and should be an All-State player this season."

Eierman has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Missouri State University 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.

Eierman joins recent Gatorade Missouri Baseball Players of the Year Alex Lange (2013-14, Lee's Summit West High School), Colby Fitch (2012-13, Hickman High School), Blake McFadden (2011-12, Savannah High School), Brett Graves (2010-11, Francis Howell High School), Chuckie Jones (2009-10, Boonville), Jacob Turner (2008-09, Westminster Christian Academy), Tim Melville (2007-08, Holt), and Nicholas Tepesch (2006-07, Blue Springs) 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 <a href="https://www.gatorade.com/poy.">www.gatorade.com/poy.</a>