

**Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)**

**LOGAN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® WEST VIRGINIA 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 Zach Minnick of Logan High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade West Virginia Baseball Player of the Year. Minnick is the second Gatorade West Virginia Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Logan 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 Minnick as West Virginia's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Minnick 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, 210-pound senior catcher batted .565 with six home runs, 24 runs-scored and 39 RBI this past season, leading the Wildcats (23-7) to the Class AAA sectional finals. A two-time returning Class AAA First Team All-State selection as named by the West Virginia Baseball Coaches Association, Minnick stole 10 bases, worked 16 walks and belted 26 extra-base hits, recording a 1.071 slugging percentage. Also a right-handed pitcher, he owned a 6-2 record with one save, a 0.71 ERA and 102 strikeouts against 23 walks in 59 innings-pitched.

Minnick has maintained a 4.04 weighted GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth baseball instructor, he has volunteered on behalf of his church and the Special Olympics.

"Zach is one of the best players, if not the best player, to have played at Logan," said Wildcats head coach Roger Gertz. "This includes a number of players that have gone on to play professionally and 2000-01 Gatorade Baseball Player of the Year Brandon Chambers. His instincts and baseball knowledge are second to none. A diligent worker and a desire to be the best player possible are traits that he possesses. Not many young men have his work ethic."

Minnick has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at North Carolina's Campbell 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.

Minnick joins recent Gatorade West Virginia Baseball Players of the Year Seth Kinker (2013-14, Cabell Midland High School), Corey Bird (2012-13, Herbert Hoover High School), Korey Dunbar (2011-12, Nitro High School), Tyler Payne (2010-11, Hurricane High School), J.R. Bradley (2009-10, Nitro), Corey Miller (2008-09, Cabell Midland), Chase Pickering (2007-08, Nitro), and Patrick Arnold (2006-07, Huntington) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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