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**SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® KANSAS BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 24, 2016) — In its 31st year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Riley Pint of Saint Thomas Aquinas High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Kansas Baseball Player of the Year. Pint is the first Gatorade Kansas Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Saint Thomas Aquinas 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 Pint as Kansas's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Pint 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-5, 220-pound senior right-handed pitcher and infielder led the Saints (18-4) to the Class 5A state tournament, scheduled to begin May 26. At the time of his selection, Pint owned a 6-1 record and a 0.50 ER, recording 75 strikeouts in 42 innings-pitched through 22 games. The state's returning Gatorade Baseball Player of the Year, he also compiled a .591 batting average and a .658 on-base percentage, knocking in 39 runs. He is ranked the nation's No. 2 recruit in the Class of 2016 by Perfect Game USA and participated in the Perfect Game All-American Classic at Petco Park in San Diego last summer.

Pint has maintained a 3.37 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at a homeless shelter and as a youth baseball coach in addition to donating his time on behalf of the Johnson County Park and Recreation District.

"Riley Pint is the best high school player I have ever coached or played against," said Heath Lay, head coach at Oak Grove High. "His fundamentals in the field are picture perfect and he was flat raking it at the plate. We consistently watched him throw 95-97 miles per hour and even saw him touch 100 mph. He is a player who stands out above all others even when there is great talent on the field from other teams."

Pint has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Louisiana State 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 Pint joins Gatorade Kansas Baseball Players of the Year Braden Minor (2013-14, Eisenhower High School), Ryan Colombo (2012-13, Seaman High School), Collin Wiles (2011-12, Blue Valley West High School), Conner Knight (2010-11, Maize High School), Cody Kukuk (2009-10, Free State High School), Garrett Gould (2008-09, Maize High School), Lee Ridenhour (2007-08, Shawnee Mission West High School), and Derek Norris (2006-07, Goddard 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.

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