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ARCHBISHOP SPALDING HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® MARYLAND 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 Tyler Blohm of Archbishop Spalding High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Maryland Baseball Player of the Year. Blohm is the second Gatorade Maryland Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Archbishop Spalding 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 Blohm as Maryland's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Blohm 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-3, 185-pound senior left-handed pitcher led the Cavaliers to a 26-4 record and a berth in the Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association A Conference championship game, scheduled for May 22. At the time of his selection, Blohm owned a 9-0 record with a 0.71 ERA and 91 strikeouts in 56 innings pitched through 30 games. The No. 5 ranked prospect in the state as rated by Prep Baseball Report, he compiled a 0.63 WHIP and held opposing hitters to a .133 batting average entering the title game.

Blohm has maintained a 3.35 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of a homeless shelter, a retirement home and as a youth baseball coach.

"Tyler has been instrumental in our success over the past three years," said Archbishop Spalding head coach Joe Palumbo. "He is extremely hard working and competitive and his leadership on and off the field never goes unnoticed by our coaching staff and the players. Those traits have helped him earn much deserved recognition as one of the best pitchers in the state of Maryland."

Blohm has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Maryland 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 <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.

Blohm joins recent Gatorade Maryland Baseball Players of the Year Ljay Newsome (2014-15, Chopticon High School), Cody Morris (2013-14, Reservoir High School), Alex Murphy (2012-13, Calvert Hall College High School), Kevin Mooney (2011-12, North Harford High School), Austin Neary (2010-11, Archbishop Spalding High School), Travis Clark (2009-10, Hammond High School), Jack Carey (2008-09, St. Paul's School), Kevin Brady (2007-08, Gaithersburg High School), and Joseph Yermal (2006-07, McDonogh 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.