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**PORTAGE NORTHERN HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MICHIGAN 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 Tommy Henry of Portage Northern High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Michigan Baseball Player of the Year. Henry is the second Gatorade Michigan Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Portage Northern 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 Henry as Michigan's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Henry 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-4, 180-pound senior left-handed pitcher, outfielder and first baseman led the Huskies to a 16-9 record and the Division I regional tournament, scheduled to begin June 11. At the time of his selection, Henry posted a 4-0 record with a 1.73 ERA and 52 strikeouts in 32.1 innings. A 2015 First Team All-State selection, he has also batted .433 with 14 RBI, a .604 on-base percentage through 25 games, including 15 stolen bases without being caught.

Henry has maintained a 3.89 GPA in the classroom. He has served as a student senate representative and volunteered locally on behalf of the March of Dimes and as a youth baseball coach.

"Tommy Henry has worked extremely hard to develop into the upper echelon of high school baseball players," said Bill Blakely, head coach at Midwest Athletics. "His statistics speak for themselves with his miniscule ERA and pinpoint control of three different pitches. At some point in the next 15 years or so, Tommy Henry's baseball career will end, but his impeccable character will be with him for the rest of his life. And his character far surpasses his ability to throw a baseball. Everyone who interacts with Tommy Henry benefits from his presence."

Henry has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship the University of Michigan 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.

Henry joins recent Gatorade Michigan Baseball Players of the Year Luke Shilling (2014-15, Notre Dame Preparatory School), Kory Young (2013-14, Rockford High School), Jackson Lamb (2012-13, Bedford High School), Brett Sunde (2011-12, Bishop Foley Catholic High School), Joel Seddon (2010-11, St. Clair High School), Jack Livingston (2009-10, Portage Northern High School), Pat Biondi (2008-09, Divine Child High School), Tyler Mills (2007-08, Mt. Pleasant High School), and D.J. LeMahieu (2006-07, Brother Rice 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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