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PROVIDENCE HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® NORTH CAROLINA 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 Logan Davidson of Providence High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade North Carolina Baseball Player of the Year. Davidson is the first Gatorade North Carolina Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Providence 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 Davidson as North Carolina's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Davidson 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, 205-pound senior shortstop has led the Panthers (29-2) to a berth in the third round of the Class 4A state semifinals, scheduled for May 24. A Preseason Honorable Mention All-American as named by Perfect Game, Davidson batted .456 with eight home runs, 16 doubles, 42 runs scored and 47 RBI through 31 games. Also a right-handed pitcher, he owned a 10-0 record with two saves, a 1.28 ERA and 75 strikeouts in 61 innings pitched entering the postseason final four.

Davidson has maintained a 4.48 weighted GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time at Providence's annual youth baseball camp, he has volunteered on behalf of Power Cross Ministries in Statesville, N.C.

"He's a top-notch player," said Travis Poole, head coach at rival Weddington High. "He's got so many tools it's unbelievable."

Davidson has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Clemson University this fall, but is projected as an early round selection in June's Major League Baseball draft.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Davidson joins recent Gatorade North Carolina Baseball Players of the Year Max Wotell (2014-15, Marvin Ridge High School), Braxton Davidson (2013-14, T.C. Roberson High School), Ryder Jones (2012-13, Watauga High School), Corey Seager (2011-12, Northwest Cabarrus High School), Dillon Maples (2010-11, Pinecrest High School), Matt Roberts (2009-10, Graham High School), Brian Goodwin (2008-09, Rocky Mount High School), Tyler Hanover (2007-08, North Davidson High School), and Madison Bumgarner (2006-07, South Caldwell 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.