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**WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® OHIO 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 Chris Machamer of Washington High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Ohio Baseball Player of the Year. Machamer is the first Gatorade Ohio Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Washington 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 Machamer as Ohio's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Machamer 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-2, 205-pound senior right-handed pitcher and designated hitter posted a 5-1 record on the mound this past season with a 0.19 ERA and 60 strikeouts in 36.1 innings pitched, leading the Tigers (17-7) to the first round of the Division I district tournament. The state's No. 2 ranked prospect as rated by Prep Baseball Report, Machamer also batted .523 with a .644 on-base percentage and 30 runs scored.

Machamer has maintained a 3.13 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as a Sunday school teacher in addition to donating his time as a mentor for students with special needs. He has also helped make blankets for a hospital in El Salvador.

"Chris Machamer is the best pitcher I've seen in Northeast Ohio in quite some time," said Zak Zelmer, head coach at Canton McKinley High. "The word I've used with him on the mound is 'automatic.' I was very surprised with how well-rounded the other parts of his game were also. He is also one of the top middle-of-the-order hitters we have seen all year."

Machamer has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Kentucky 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.

Machamer joins recent Gatorade Ohio Baseball Players of the Year Ryan Feltner (2014-15, Walsh Jesuit High School), Cameron Varga (2013-14, Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy), Andrew Benintendi (2012-13, Madeira High School), Adam Schaly (2011-12, Ashland High School), Taylore Cherry (2010-11, Butler High School), David Whitehead (2009-10, Moeller High School), Tyler Skulina (2008-09, Walsh Jesuit High School), Ryan Curl (2007-08, St. Francis DeSales High School), and Derek Dietrich (2006-07, St. Ignatius 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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