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**BERRYHILL HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® OKLAHOMA 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 Cacy Harper of Berryhill High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Oklahoma Baseball Player of the Year. Harper is the first Gatorade Oklahoma Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Berryhill 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 Harper as Oklahoma's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Harper 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, 230-pound senior catcher batted .484 with seven home runs and 55 RBI, posting a .584 on-base percentage in leading the Chiefs (34-6) to the Class 4A state final this past season. The 2016 Tulsa Seven League Player of the Year, Harper threw out 25-of-31 would-be base-stealers from behind the plate.

Harper has maintained a 3.13 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of an elementary school literacy-outreach program and his school's peer leadership organization in addition to serving as a youth baseball coach.

"Cacy Harper is an excellent ballplayer and a great teammate," said David Yates, head coach at Cushing High. "Without him, his team would not have the success that they are having. If I were to start a team, he would be the first kid I would call. He is an excellent student and is a hard worker."

Harper has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Oral Roberts University 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.

Harper joins recent Gatorade Oklahoma Baseball Players of the Year Kyle Tyler (2014-15, Westmoore High School), Gavin LaValley (2013-14, Carl Albert High School), Austin O'Brien (2012-13, Owasso High School), Ty Hensley (2011-12, Edmond Santa Fe High School), Dylan Bundy (2010-11, 2009-10 & 2008-09, Owasso High School), Bobby Bundy (2007-08, Sperry High School), and Peter Kozma (2006-07, Owasso 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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