

Contact: John Manzo (312-729-3622)

**SHERWOOD HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® OREGON 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 Adley Rutschman of Sherwood High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Oregon Baseball Player of the Year. Rutschman is the first Gatorade Oregon Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Sherwood 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 Rutschman as Oregon's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Rutschman 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 catcher led the Bowmen to a 15-11 record and a berth in the Class 6A state tournament, scheduled to begin May 23. A returning Class 6A First Team All-State selection as named by The Oregonian, Rutschman batted .347 with three home runs, 14 RBI and 20 runs scored through 26 games. Also a right-handed relief pitcher, he owned a 2-0 record with five saves, a 1.00 ERA and 24 strikeouts in 14 innings pitched entering the state postseason.

Rutschman has maintained a 3.95 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth baseball and football instructor as well as a youth basketball scorekeeper, he has volunteered on behalf of the Sherwood Robin Hood Festival, a Vacation Bible School, Ford's Drive 4 UR School fundraising initiative, the Sherwood High booster club and an annual charity golf tournament.

"I have been coaching high school baseball for 30 years and have never had the opportunity to coach anyone on his level," said Sherwood head coach Jon Strohmaier. "He is truly a once-in-a-lifetime player."

Rutschman has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Oregon State 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.

Rutschman joins recent Gatorade Oregon Baseball Players of the Year Jacob Bennett (2014-15, Tualatin High School), Elliott Cary (2013-14, Clackamas High School), Austin Kelly (2012-13, Clackamas High School), Carson Kelly (2011-12 & 2010-11, Westview High School), Ben Wetzler (2009-10, Clackamas High School), Matt Maurer (2008-09, North Medford High School), Ryan Gorton (2007-08, Tigard High School), and Joey Mahalic (2006-07, Wilson 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.

###