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FLINT HILL SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® VIRGINIA 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 Khalil Lee of Flint Hill School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Virginia Baseball Player of the Year. Lee is the fourth Gatorade Virginia Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Flint Hill 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 Lee as Virginia's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Lee 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, 185-pound senior left-handed pitcher and outfielder was 7-0 with two saves and a 0.33 ERA on the mound this past season, leading the Huskies (20-5) to the Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association Division I state tournament semifinals. Lee allowed just 17 hits and three walks with striking out 87 batters in 43 innings pitched, holding opponents to a .116 batting average. At the plate, the Rawlings-Perfect Game and Louisville Slugger preseason All-American hit .471 with six home runs, 37 runs scored, 23 RBI, a .634 on-base percentage and a .941 slugging percentage.

Lee has maintained a 3.13 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as a teacher's aide at a pair of elementary schools and as a baseball coach for children with disabilities.

"We have faced a number of top-rated pitchers this season and Khalil Lee was the best by far," said Tony Szymendera, head coach of St. Christopher's School. "What I saw was a guy with excellent velocity who wasn't a max-effort guy. If a hitter fouled a few off, he could find a few more miles per hour to throw it by a guy. That's impressive for a high school kid."

Lee has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at Liberty University beginning 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.

Lee joins recent Gatorade Virginia Baseball Players of the Year Nic Enright (2014-15, The Steward School), J.B. Bukauskas (2013-14, Stone Bridge High School), Connor Jones (2012-13, Great Bridge High School), Nathan Kirby (2011-12, James River High School), Nick Thompson (2010-11, Western Branch High School), Kyle Crockett (2009-10, Poquoson High School), Ethan Carter (2008-09, Menchville High School), Austin Stadler (2007-08, James River High School), and Neil Ramirez (2006-07, Kempsville 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.