

**WATERFORD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE CONNECTICUT BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 21, 2020) — In its 35th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced Jared Burrows of Waterford High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Connecticut Baseball Player of the Year. Burrows is the second Gatorade Connecticut Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Waterford 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 Burrows as Connecticut's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Burrows joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo High School, Mich.), Jon Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Preparatory School, Wash.), David Price (2003-04, Blackman High School, Tenn.), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas), Rick Porcello (2006-2007, Seaton Hall Preparatory School, N.J.) and Kris Bryant (2009-10, Bonanza High School, Nev.).

The 5-foot-11, 185-pound senior shortstop and right-handed pitcher led the Lancers (20-9) to the Class L state championship in 2019, hurling a three-hit shutout in the title game. Rated as the No. 36 senior prospect in New England by Prep Baseball Report, Burrows posted a 6-2 record in 2019 with a 0.74 ERA, striking out 89 batters with just six walks in 61 innings pitched. A two-time First Team All-Conference selection, he also batted .325 with four home runs and 17 RBI.

Burrows has tutored elementary school students in Spanish and has volunteered locally on behalf of the New London Community Meal Center and youth sports programs. "Jared is the hardest-working and most talented student-athlete I have been around in my career," said Waterford coach Art Peluso. "He's an irreplaceable member of our baseball team, and many of the young people in our community view him as their role model."

Burrows has maintained a 3.98 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Hartford.

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 and field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Burrows joins recent Gatorade Connecticut Baseball Players of the Year Patrick Winkel (2017-18, Amity Regional High School), Ben Casparius (2016-17, Staples High School), and Jimmy Titus (2015-16, 2014-15, East Catholic High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

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