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**UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE FLORIDA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 30, 2017) — In its 32<sup>nd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Logan Allen of University High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade Florida Baseball Player of the Year. Allen is the first Gatorade Florida Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from University 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 Allen as Florida's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Allen joins an elite alumni association of past 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 6-foot-1, 180-pound senior left-handed pitcher and outfielder had led the Titans to a 23-6 record at the time of his selection. Allen owned an 11-0 record on the mound with a 0.42 earned run average and 126 strikeouts in 67 innings, allowing 27 hits and nine walks thru 29 games. At the plate, Allen owned a .446 batting average with 14 doubles, 27 runs scored and a .630 slugging percentage. The three-time Daytona Beach News-Journal Player of the Year, Allen was a member of the USA Baseball's 18U National Team that won gold at the COPABE Pan American Championships in Mexico last summer.

Allen has volunteered locally as part of community beautification projects and as a youth baseball coach. "Logan Allen is the real deal," said Willie Brown, head coach of Winter Park High. "The kid knows how to pitch and competes the entire game. When you think you've figured him out, he digs deeper and strikes everyone out."

Allen has maintained a weighted 4.19 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play baseball on scholarship at Florida International 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 Player of the Year Selection Committee, 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.

Allen joins recent Gatorade Florida Baseball Players of the Year Bo Bichette (2015-16, Lakewood High School), Kyle Tucker (2014-15, Plant High School), Nicholas Gordon (2013-14 & 2012-13, Olympia High School), Lance McCullers, Jr. (2011-12, Jesuit High School), Jose Fernandez (2010-11, Alonso High School), Nick Castellanos (2009-10, Archbishop McCarthy High School), Bobby Borchering (2008-09, Bishop Verot Catholic High School), Eric Hosmer (2007-08, American Heritage School), and Michael Main (2006-07, DeLand High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Logan will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow the conversation on Twitter #GatoradePOY. 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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