

**Contact: John Manzo (312-729-3622)**

**DICKINSON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA 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 Cameron Jorda of Dickinson High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Player of the Year. Jorda is the third Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Dickinson 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 Jorda as North Dakota's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Jorda 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 5-foot-10, 170-pound senior third baseman and right-handed pitcher had led the Midgets to a 27-3 record at the time of his selection. Jorda owned a .416 batting average with 13 stolen bases and 33 RBI through 30 games, with a 2-1 record, 1.62 ERA and two saves on the mound. A member of the All-Conference and All-Tournament team as a junior, he was also named to USA TODAY's American Family Insurance ALL-USA North Dakota First Team.

A mentor for younger students, Jorda has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics, a soup kitchen and toy-donation drives. "Jorda has very few weaknesses in his game," said Jim Patton, head coach at Bismarck High. "He's a good infielder, a good pitcher, he hits for power, he hits for average, he can run. He's just a really good ballplayer.

Jorda has maintained a 4.08 GPA in the classroom. He is undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Jorda joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Players of the Year Dalton Feeney (2015-16, Century High School), Colin Hennessy (2014-15, Red River High School), Ian Schultz (2013-14, Fargo North High School), Ellery Bresnahan (2012-13, Central Cass High School), Andy Young (2011-12, West Fargo High School), David Ernst (2010-11 & 2009-10, Fargo South High School), Cole Frenzel (2008-09, Dickinson High School), Zac Elgie (2007-08, Minot High School), and Tanner Lorenz (2006-07, Harvey High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Cameron 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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