

**Contact: Kelsey Rhoney (312-729-3685)**

**CAPE ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE MAINE BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 29, 2018) — In its 33<sup>rd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Brendan Tinsman of Cape Elizabeth High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Maine Baseball Player of the Year. Tinsman is the second Gatorade Maine Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Cape Elizabeth 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 Tinsman as Maine's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Tinsman 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-2, 215-pound senior catcher had led the Capers to an 8-4 record at the time of his selection. Tinsman produced a .429 batting average with three home runs, 10 RBI and 13 runs scored through 12 games. A Rawlings/Perfect Game First Team All-Northeast Region selection, he is also a three-time All-Conference honoree and was named to USA TODAY's American Family Insurance ALL-USA Maine First Team.

Tinsman has volunteered locally on behalf of Thanksgiving food drives, the American Cancer Society, youth sports programs and the STRIVE Rocks event, which raises funds to benefit young adults with developmental disabilities.

"Tinsman is as five-tool as you can get," said Chris Kroski, head coach at Fryeburg Academy. "He hits for average and he hits for power to all parts of the field. He's got a great arm and every throw is right on the bag."

Tinsman has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Wake Forest 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 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.

Tinsman joins recent Gatorade Maine Baseball Players of the Year Cam Guarino (2016-17, Falmouth High School), Trevor DeLaitte (2015-16, Bangor High School), Zachary Quintal (2014-15, Marshwood High School), Ben Greenberg (2013-14 & 2012-13, Scarborough High School), Luke Fernandes (2011-12, Marshwood High School), Scott Heath (2010-11, Westbrook High School), Matt Verrier (2009-10, Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School), Chris Bernard (2008-09, Scarborough High School), Kyle Stilphen (2007-08, Gardiner Area High School), and Jarrett Lukas (2006-07, Old Town High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Brendan 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 <http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com/>.

###