

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE VERMONT BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 23, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced **Ian Parent of Champlain Valley Union High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Vermont Baseball Player of the Year**. Parent is the third Gatorade Vermont Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Champlain Valley Union 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 Parent as Vermont'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, Parent 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, 170-pound senior left-handed pitcher and first baseman had led the Redhawks to a 13-0 record at the time of his selection. Parent compiled a 4-0 record with a 0.46 ERA through 13 games, along with a .500 batting average, 10 RBI and six stolen bases. He had surrendered just 13 hits in 26.1 innings pitched while striking out 36 batters. Parent recorded a no-hitter against rival Rice Memorial.

A member of his school's Link Crew, Parent has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and Habitat for Humanity. "Parent's stuff is really good and he throws with good velocity," said Ed Lewicki, head coach at Burr & Burton Academy. "He's a very solid player overall, who's done it against a difficult schedule."

Parent has maintained a 3.19 GPA in the classroom. He will attend Endicott College (Mass.) this fall, where he will play baseball.

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. 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.

Parent joins recent Gatorade Vermont Baseball Players of the Year Nick Fitzgerald (2017-18, Lamoille Union High School), Jordy Allard (2016-17, Hartford High School), Mark Connor (2015-16, Bellows Free Academy), and Rayne Supple (2014-15 & 2013-14, Champlain Valley Union High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Parent also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

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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