

**CHILTON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE ALABAMA 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 **William Kohn of Chilton County High School** as its **2019-20 Gatorade Alabama Baseball Player of the Year**. Kohn is the first Gatorade Alabama Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Chilton County 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 Kohn as Alabama'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, Kohn 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 6-foot-5, 215-pound junior left-handed pitcher was a member of the 2019 WWBA National Championship All-Tournament Team and a 2020 Perfect Game First Team Preseason All-American selection. Kohn was 4-1 on the mound with a 0.45 earned run average this spring for Chilton County (8-6) before the season was cancelled. He had recorded 59 strikeouts in 31 innings pitched. As a sophomore in 2019, Kohn posted a 10-record with a 0.09 ERA and 125 strikeouts in 75 innings. He is ranked as the nation's No. 79 prospect in the Class of 2021 by Baseball America.

Kohn has volunteered locally at a homeless shelter and food bank, and he has donated his time as a youth baseball coach and mentor. "Pico Kohn is the only guy you want on the mound in the biggest game," said Joe Caruso, Kohn's summer ball coach with the East Coast Sox. "His makeup and 0 mound presence elevate him to the best big-game pitcher a coach could ever dream of having."

Kohn has maintained a 3.64 GPA in the classroom. He has made a verbal commitment to play baseball on scholarship at Mississippi State University beginning in the fall of 2021.

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.

Kohn joins recent Gatorade Alabama Baseball Players of the Year Garrett Wade (2017-18, Hartselle High School), Tanner Burns (2016-17, Decatur High School), Braxton Garrett (2015-16, Florence High School), and Hunter Stovall (2014-15, Pelham 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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