APPOQUINIMINK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DELAWARE 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 **Lorenzo Carrier of Appoquinimink High School** as its **2019-20 Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year**. Carrier is the second Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Appoquinimink 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 Carrier as Delaware's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Baseball Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Carrier 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-4, 185-pound junior shortstop was a Rawlings-Perfect Game 2020 Preseason Underclass First Team All-American and participated in the USA Baseball 16U National Team Development Program last summer. He led the Jaguars to a perfect 22-0 record and the state championship in 2019, batting .423 with a home run, five triples, 22 RBI and 10 stolen bases. A First Team All-State selection, is ranked as the nation's No. 37 prospect in the Class of 2021 by Perfect Game.

A mentor for younger students, Carrier has volunteered locally on behalf of a food bank and a Best Buddies softball program. "Lorenzo was the centerpiece of our state championship team," said Appoquinimink coach Mike Torres. "He ignited our offense and defense, every game. He's one of the hardest workers I have ever coached. He excels on and off the field and he understands the game at a high level."

Carrier has maintained a 3.28 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Carrier joins recent Gatorade Delaware Baseball Players of the Year Zack Gelof (2017-18, Cape Henlopen High School), Ryan Steckline (2016-17, Appoquinimink High School), Jordan Hutchins (2015-16, Dover High School) and Brandon Fraley (2014-15, Caravel Academy) 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 <u>www.Gatorade.com/POY</u>, on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> or follow us on Twitter at <u>www.twitter.com/Gatorade</u>.