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**MAHWAH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE NEW JERSEY BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (May 21, 2020) — In its 35<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Kyle Teel of Mahwah High School** as its **2019-20 Gatorade New Jersey Baseball Player of the Year**. Teel is the first Gatorade New Jersey Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Mahwah 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 Teel as New Jersey'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, Teel 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-1, 190-pound senior shortstop, catcher and right-handed pitcher was one of 80 players invited to the Major League Baseball Prospect Development Pipeline League last August. Ranked as the nation's No. 16 prospect in the Class of 2020 by Prep Baseball Report, Teel concluded his prep baseball career with a .430 batting average, 99 hits and 14 home runs. In 2019, he posted a 3-0 record with three saves and a 0.60 earned run average for Mahwah. At the plate, he compiled a .574 batting average with 31 RBI, 29 runs scored and eight home runs while posting a .678 on-base percentage and a 1.164 slugging percentage.

Teel has volunteered locally as a youth baseball and football coach. "Kyle Teel is the best player that I have ever coached or coached against," said Jeff Remo, head coach at Mahwah High. "He has all of the tools to succeed at the next level and beyond. He has been the leader of our baseball team for the past three years."

Teel has maintained a weighted B-plus average in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Virginia 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 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.

Teel joins recent Gatorade New Jersey Baseball Players of the Year Nick Decker (2017-18, Seneca High School), Brad Dobzanski (2016-17, Delsea Regional High School) and Luca Dalatri (2015-16, Christian Brothers 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 [www.Gatorade.com/POY](http://www.Gatorade.com/POY), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY](http://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/Gatorade](http://www.twitter.com/Gatorade).

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