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**DAVIES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA 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 **Cole Hage of Davies High School** as its **2019-20 Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Player of the Year**. Hage is the first Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Davies 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 Hage as North Dakota'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, Hage 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-3, 220-pound senior outfielder and first baseman led the Fargo Post 2 Legion Team to the championship game of the American Legion World Series this past summer, batting .465 with a 1.305 OPS. A Rawlings-Perfect Game 2020 Preseason Honorable Mention All-Central Region selection, Hage batted a school-record .491 for the Eagles (11-10) during the 2019 high school season, producing two home runs, three triples, 28 RBI and a .603 on-base percentage. He was an All-State honoree in 2019.

Also a basketball standout, Hage participates in his church's youth ministry and has volunteered locally on behalf of youth sports programs. "Cole is one of the best baseball players I've ever been around," said Davies coach Hans Anderson. "He doesn't know how to take the easy route and always competes to be the best he can be. He's an outstanding player, student and young man."

Hage has maintained a 4.15 GPA in the classroom. He will attend Columbia University, 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 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.

Hage joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Players of the Year Jake Faircloth (2017-18, West Fargo High School), Cameron Jorda (2016-17, Dickinson High School), Dalton Feeney (2015-16, Century High School), and Colin Hennessy (2014-15, Red River 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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