

**BISHOP HENDRICKEN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE RHODE ISLAND 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 Brad Lombardi of Bishop Hendricken High School as its 2019-20 Gatorade Rhode Island Baseball Player of the Year. Lombardi is the first Gatorade Rhode Island Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Bishop Hendricken 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 Lombardi as Rhode Island'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, Lombardi 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, 235-pound senior right-handed pitcher averaged 1.6 strikeouts per inning for his L&M Baseball elite-level college prospect travel program last summer. The winning pitcher as the Hawks completed a perfect 2019 season with a sweep of La Salle Academy in the best-of-three Division I state championship series, Lombardi pitched two innings of hitless relief in Hendricken's 4-3 win over the Rams, striking out four batters. That capped a 2019 spring in which Lombardi compiled a 4-0 record with a 0.71 earned run average and one save. He allowed just 10 hits while striking out 30 batters in 19.2 innings pitched a year ago.

A member of the Bishop Hendricken English National Honor Society, Lombardi has volunteered locally as a peer tutor in his school's Writing Center. He has also donated his time with A Wish Come True, an organization that grants wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses. "Brad's makeup is through the roof. He is an electric, electric pitcher," said Idris Lisau, Lombardi's summer ball coach with L&M Baseball. "He's a really good athlete. One of the best things is his competitive nature. He competes like three players in one." Lombardi has maintained a 3.58 GPA in the classroom.

He has signed a national letter of intent to play baseball on scholarship at Boston College 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.

Lombardi joins recent Gatorade Rhode Island Baseball Players of the Year Ben Sears (2017-18, East Providence High School), Sam Kenyon (2016-17, South Kingstown High School), Mason Feole (2015-16, The Prout School), and Gian Martellini (2014-15, Bishop Hendricken 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.

