

**SOUTH ANCHORAGE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE ALASKA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 29, 2021) — In its 36<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Dylan Maltby of South Anchorage High School** as its **2020-21 Gatorade Alaska Baseball Player of the Year**. Maltby is the third Gatorade Alaska Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from South Anchorage 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 Maltby as Alaska's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Maltby 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, 210-pound senior catcher led the Wolves to a 17-0 record and the Division I state championship this past season. Maltby posted a .410 batting average with 17 RBI, 15 runs scored and a .625 on-base percentage. A First Team All-State selection, he reached base in 16 of 17 games via a hit or a walk.

Maltby has volunteered locally on behalf of a golf tournament, as a camp counselor and as a youth baseball coach. "Dylan Matby is the type of player who never stops competing," said South Anchorage High head coach Taylor Nerland. "He is always looking for ways to improve his skills. Guys like Dylan are great to have on any team. It doesn't matter where you need them to play, they get the job done."

Maltby has maintained a 3.09 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Hesston College in Kansas 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 & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Maltby joins recent Gatorade Alaska Baseball Players of the Year Leland Wilson (2019-20, West Anchorage High School), Jacob Woodall (2018-19, South Anchorage High School), Michael Cesar (2017-18, Juneau-Douglas High School), and Jonny Homza (2016-17, South Anchorage High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Maltby has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Maltby is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

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 [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com), on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY) or follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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