

**TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE KENTUCKY 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 **Daylen Lile of Trinity High School** as its **2020-21 Gatorade Kentucky Baseball Player of the Year**. Lile is the second Gatorade Kentucky Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Trinity 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 Lile as Kentucky'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, Lile 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 state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot, 195-pound senior outfielder led the Shamrocks to a 41-2 record, the statewide tournament championship and a No. 7 national ranking by MaxPreps this past season. Also the state's 2021 Mr. Baseball award winner, Lile batted .550 with 66 runs scored along with 11 doubles, 12 triples, 18 home runs and 60 RBI. A two-time Perfect Game All-American and two-time MaxPreps U.S. Top 50 Player, he walked 39 times and struck out just seven in 155 plate appearances, posting an OBP of .680, a 1.413 slugging percentage and an eye-popping OPS of 2.093. He is ranked No. 33 among the Top 100 high school pro draft prospects by Baseball America and as the nation's No. 2 outfielder by Prep Baseball Report.

Lile has volunteered locally on behalf of Dare to Care, packing food for the needy and the homeless. He has also donated his time to the Beargrass Christian Church sack lunch program, local youth baseball clinics and the Legends Baseball Sports Academy. "I thought he was the best high school baseball player in Kentucky a year ago and that hasn't changed," said Ballard High assistant coach Scott Adell. "He's only gotten better. He continues to have elite bat-to-ball skills, but the difference this year is the off-season work he put in on his body. It's clear he's become stronger and it has translated into his game. He's clearly one of the best in the country."

Lile has maintained a 4.46 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Louisville this fall, but is projected as an early round selection in July's Major League Baseball draft.

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.

Two-time winner Lile joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Baseball Players of the Year AJ Hacker (2018-19, Rowan County Senior High School), Ryan Hawks (2017-18, Warren East High School), and Jordan "Jo" Adell (2016-17, Ballard High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Lile has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Lile 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).