

JESUIT COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL OF DALLAS STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE TEXAS BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 29, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jordan Lawlar of Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas** as its **2020-21 Gatorade Texas Baseball Player of the Year**. Lawlar is the third Gatorade Texas Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas.

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 Lawlar as Texas' best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Lawlar 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-2, 195-pound senior shortstop posted a .412 batting average with six home runs, 46 runs scored, 37 RBI and a .556 on-base percentage this past season, leading the Rangers to a 32-6 record and a berth in the Class 6A area playoffs. The nation's No. 1 draft prospect as ranked by Perfect Game, Lawlar also stole 32 bases without being caught and walked 27 times this spring. In 2020, he received the prestigious Jackie Robinson Player of the Year award by Perfect Game.

A devoted parishioner in his church community, Lawlar has volunteered locally on behalf of the Texas Ramp Project, during which he helped build wooden ramps for wheelchair-bound people. He has also participated in his school's Adopt-A-Family initiative, delivering food, gifts and supplies to families in need. "I haven't seen a player with Jordan Lawlar's abilities in a long time," said John Tovar, head coach at Berkner High. "He's one of those shortstops that makes every ground ball look easy. He hits for a lot of power and he has a great eye for the strike zone."

Lawlar has maintained a 4.12 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Vanderbilt University 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.

Lawlar joins recent Gatorade Texas Baseball Players of the Year Jared Kelley (2019-20, Refugio High School), Bobby Witt Jr. (2018-19, Colleyville Heritage High School), Brett Baty (2017-18, Lake Travis High School), and Alex Scherff (2016-17, Colleyville Heritage High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Lawlar has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Lawlar 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, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.