CONRAD SCHOOLS OF SCIENCE STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DELAWARE BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 3, 2022) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Tyler Pirrung** of **Conrad Schools of Science** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year**. Pirrung is the first Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Conrad Schools of Science.

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 Pirrung as Delaware's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Pirrung 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 (2006-07, Seaton Hall Preparatory School, N.J.) and Kris Bryant (2009-10, Bonanza High School, Nev.).

At the time of his selection, the 5-foot-11, 188-pound senior right-handed pitcher, third baseman and outfielder had batted .542 with four home runs, 30 RBI and 22 runs scored, leading the Red Wolves to a 17-3 record and a berth in the state semifinals. A 2021 First Team All-State selection, Pirrung also compiled a .642 on-base percentage and did not allow a run in five games and seven innings pitched through 20 games.

A member of the National Honor Society, Pirrung has volunteered locally as part of multiple 5K road races and as both a youth swimming and baseball coach. "Tyler Pirrung is the cornerstone of the Red Wolves baseball program," said Conrad Schools of Science head coach Kelley Wilson. "He is a leader on and off the field throughout the season. He's the player that I want (at the plate or on the mound) when the game is on the line."

Pirrung has maintained a 4.86 weighted GPA in the classroom. He remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Pirrung joins recent Gatorade Delaware Baseball Players of the Year Lorenzo Carrier (2020-21 & 2019-20, Appoquinimink High School), Matt Warrington (2018-19, Sussex Tech High School), and Zack Gelof (2017-18, Cape Henlopen High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Pirrung has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Pirrung is also eligible to submit a short 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 \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 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 or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.