

**WINNACUNNET HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE 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 **Joe Allen** of **Winnacunnet High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade New Hampshire Baseball Player of the Year**. Allen is the third Gatorade New Hampshire Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Winnacunnet 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 Allen as New Hampshire'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, Allen 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.).

The 6-foot-4, 225-pound senior right-handed pitcher had led the Warriors to a 13-7 record and a berth in the Division 1 state tournament at the time of his selection. Allen posted a 3-2 record with a 1.62 ERA through the regular season, striking out 71 batters in 43 innings pitched while surrendering just 26 hits and 13 walks. A First Team All-State selection, he was the only New England player chosen for the USA Baseball 18U National Team and also played in the 2021 Area Code Games. He was a Third Team Rawlings/Perfect Game Preseason All-American.

Allen has volunteered locally on behalf of youth sports programs. "Joe Allen is definitely a big talent," said Jake Filip, head coach at Trinity High School. "He has an elite fastball for the high school level and he's really refined his off-speed pitches this year. He can throw them all for strikes."

Allen has maintained a 3.78 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Michigan 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Allen joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Baseball Players of the Year Cam MacDonald (2020-21, Winnacunnet High School), Connor Hujsak (2019-20, Goffstown High School), Brett Anderson (2018-19, Bishop Guertin High School), and Grant Lavigne (2017-18, Bedford 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, Allen 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. Allen 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.

###