WHITEFISH BAY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WISCONSIN 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 **Mitch Voit** of **Whitefish Bay High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Wisconsin Baseball Player of the Year**. Voit is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Whitefish Bay 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 Voit as Wisconsin'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, Voit 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.).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-1, 180-pound senior right-handed pitcher and third baseman had led the Blue Dukes to a 23-2 regular season, a North Shore Conference title and a bye in the sectional round of Division I state tournament. Voit hit safely in 24 of 25 games and entered the Section 6 postseason with a .562 batting average, five home runs, 37 RBIs and 26 stolen bases. He also went 9-0 on the mound with a 0.49 ERA and struck out 75 batters in 43 innings pitched, recording one no-hitter.

Voit has volunteered locally with the Cahill Cleanup Crew, which helps clear litter and debris from Cahill Park in Whitefish Bay. He also has donated his time to Whitefish Bay youth baseball camps. "There are a number of players who have put up great offensive numbers, or have great pitching numbers this season, but Mitch has dominated all season long at both," said Homestead High School head coach Jason Kosanke. "In addition to his athletic ability, Mitch displays a high level of character and integrity on the field. He is the unquestioned team leader in the Whitefish Bay dugout and it's clear to see that his teammates respect him and hold him in high regard."

Voit has maintained a 3.33 GPA in the classroom. He has signed his National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Michigan this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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.

Voit joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Baseball Players of the Year Owen Washburn (2020-21, Webster High School), Max Wagner (2019-20, Preble High School), Connor Prielipp (2018-19, Tomah High School), and Jack Washburn (2017-18, Webster 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, Voit 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. Voit 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 player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit player of the Year program of the Year prog