

**ARCHBISHOP SPALDING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MARYLAND BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 3, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jake Yeager** of **Archbishop Spalding High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Maryland Baseball Player of the Year**. Yeager is the third Gatorade Maryland Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Archbishop Spalding High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation's top high school athletes for excellence on the field, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Yeager as Maryland's best high school baseball player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Gary Sheffield (1985-86, Hillsborough High School, Fla.), Alex Rodriguez (1992-93, Westminster Christian School, Fla.), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Max Clark (2022-23, 2021-22 & 2020-21, Franklin Community High School, Ind.).

The 6-foot-3, 200-pound senior right-handed pitcher led the Cavaliers to a 27-6 record and the Maryland Interscholastic Athletic Association A Conference championship this past season. Yeager compiled a 5-3 record on the mound with a 1.25 ERA, recording 84 strikeouts in 56 innings of work. Ranked No. 1 in the state in the Class of 2024 by both Perfect Game and PrepBaseballReport and a consensus Top 100 prospect nationally, he also held opposing hitters to a .138 average and compiled a WHIP of 0.89. He is a two-time Maryland State Association of Baseball Coaches Preseason First Team All-State selection and was a 2023 Perfect Game All-American Game invitee.

Yeager has volunteered locally on behalf of GiGi's Playhouse, which provides programming and support for people with Down syndrome, and as a youth baseball coach. "Jake Yeager has had as impressive of a career as you will find for a high school baseball player," said Joe Palumbo, head coach at Archbishop Spalding High School. "While he is outstanding on the field and an incredible pitcher, he is also a fantastic teammate and person. It has been a refreshing and joyful experience coaching him the past four years."

Yeager has maintained a 3.71 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Maryland this fall.

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.

Yeager joins recent Gatorade Maryland Baseball Players of the Year Joey McMannis (2022-23, Catoctin High School), Chris Hacopian (2021-22, Winston Churchill High School), Peter Heubeck (2020-21, Gilman School) and Jack Bulger (2019-20, DeMatha Catholic High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$4.9 million in grants to winners across more than 1,900 organizations.

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 X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

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