## DAVIES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

**CHICAGO** (June 3, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Drew Rerick** of **Davies High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Player of the Year**. Rerick is the second Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Davies 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 Rerick as North Dakota'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.).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-5, 240-pound senior right-handed pitcher had led the Eagles (20-9) to a berth in the NDHSAA Class A tournament this season. Rerick compiled a 4-2 record on the mound through 29 games with a 1.63 ERA and 76 strikeouts in 38.2 innings pitched. Entering the state tournament, he owned a 0.78 WHIP and had limited opponents to a .112 batting average. The 2024 MaxPreps North Dakota Preseason Player of the Year, he's ranked as the nation's No. 154 prospect in the 2024 MLB Draft by Baseball America.

A National Honor Society member, Rerick has volunteered locally with a youth baseball program. He has also participated in student-leadership roles and the DECA entrepreneurship program at Davies High School. "Drew's stuff is probably as good as we've ever seen at the high school level with regard to the fastball and slider velocity," said Brett Peterson, head coach at West Fargo High School. "From a pitching prospect perspective, we've never seen a kid throw as hard as him. He was clocked at 95 mph when we faced him."

Rerick has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at Texas A&M 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.

Rerick joins recent Gatorade North Dakota Baseball Players of the Year Eli Nissen (2022-23, Minot High School), Troy Berg (2021-22, Dickinson High School), Alex Urlaub (2020-21, Sheyenne High School) and Cole Hage (2019-20, Davies 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 <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u>, Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u> and X(Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.