CAPE HENLOPEN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE DELAWARE BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 3, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Jase Mitchell of Cape Henlopen High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Delaware Baseball Player of the Year.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their success on the field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Mitchell as Delaware's best high school baseball player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Gary Sheffield (1985-86, Hillsborough High School, Florida), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Konnor Griffin (2023-24, Jackson Preparatory School, Mississippi).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-3, 210-pound senior catcher had led the Vikings (18-1) to the quarterfinals of the state tournament this season. Mitchell batted .500 with five home runs, 29 RBI and 28 runs scored. He stole 10 bases on 11 attempts and threw out six of 12 would-be base stealers.

A member of the National Honor Society, Mitchell has volunteered locally handing out supplies at a food bank and by organizing elementary school classrooms. He has also donated his time to various baseball camps as a coach and instructor. "Jase Mitchell is a dangerous hitter, for sure," said Kristin Caldwell, Caravel Academy head coach. "He's definitely a guy that you are careful what you give him, especially with runners on base."

Mitchell has maintained an A average in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play baseball at the University of Kentucky 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 across 12 different high school sports – 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.

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 \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate studentathletes, visit <u>playeroftheyear.gatorade.com</u> or follow us on social media on Instagram at <u>instagram.com/Gatorade</u>, Facebook at <u>facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> and X(Twitter) at <u>x.com/Gatorade</u>.