REITZ MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE INDIANA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 3, 2025) — In its 40^{th} year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Matthew Fisher of Reitz Memorial High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Indiana 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 Fisher as Indiana'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, 205-pound senior right-handed pitcher and first baseman had led the Tigers (17-4) to the quarterfinals of the 3A state tournament this season. Fisher posted 5-0 record with a 0.47 ERA, fanning 53 batters against just seven walks in 29.2 innings pitched. He also hit .263 with 14 RBIs and a home run.

A member of the National Honor Society, Fisher has volunteered locally with the Highland Challenger League, a baseball league for kids with special needs. He has also donated his time to BESTIES Club, which benefits children with Down syndrome. "I can't say enough great things about Matthew Fisher," said Jeremy Jones, head coach at North High School. "He is a leader for Memorial, throws 93 to 95 miles per hour, developed a nasty cutter and his changeup has improved dramatically from a year ago."

Fisher has maintained a 3.73 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play baseball at Indiana University this fall but is projected as an early round selection in July's Major League Baseball First Year Player Draft.

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 student-athletes, 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>.