## SCARBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MAINE 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 Erik Swenson of Scarborough High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Maine 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 Swenson as Maine'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-1, 195-pound senior right-handed pitcher had led the Red Storm to a 10-0 record this season. Swenson compiled a 4-0 record with a 0.30 ERA and 36 strikeouts against just three walks in 23 innings, including 17 consecutive frames without allowing a hit. That streak included a perfect game in a 3-0 win over Class A foe Gorham. He was named the 2024 Southwestern Maine Activities Association Pitcher of the Year as a junior after going 7-0 with 74 strikeouts in 45.1 innings.

Swenson has volunteered locally with Downhill 24, which is a 24-hour marathon skiing fundraiser for kids. "Erik's dominating and he's doing it with class," said Falmouth High School head coach Mike D'Andrea. "He has improved every year. His control and command has really become evident to me. Everything is around the zone, it's rare to see a ball go to the backstop, and he's 89-92 mph with late life that jumps on you."

Swenson has maintained an 89.6 average in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play baseball at the University of Maine 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 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>.