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**SHERIDAN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® WYOMING FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 1, 2011) — In its 27th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Jordan Roberts of Sheridan High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Wyoming Football Player of the Year. Roberts is the fifth Gatorade Wyoming Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Sheridan High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Roberts as Wyoming's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Roberts joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Wes Welker (1999-00, Heritage Hall HS, Okla.), Terrell Suggs (1999-00, Hamilton HS, Ariz.), Anquan Boldin (1998-99, Pahokee HS, Fla.) and Jerome Bettis (1989-90, Mackenzie HS, Mich.).

The 5-foot-11, 193-pound senior running back led the Broncs to an 11-1 record and the Class 4A state championship this past season. Roberts rushed for 2,688 yards and 38 touchdowns on 308 carries. The Class 4A Offensive Player of the Year, Roberts has twice been named to the Casper Star-Tribune Super 25 team.

Roberts has maintained a 3.61 GPA in the classroom. A dedicated member of his church community, he has volunteered locally on behalf of youth sports programs and school anti-drug initiatives, and has donated his time assisting disabled individuals with Rehabilitation Enterprises of North Eastern Wyoming.

"Roberts has great vision on the field and he plays really hard." said Jon Vance, head coach of rival Kelly Walsh High. "He's a very strong player too. He's hard to bring down when he's got the ball."

Roberts remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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 ESPNHS and the Gatorade high school sports leadership team, which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Roberts joins recent Gatorade Wyoming Football Players of the Year Jim Shellenberger (2010-11, Natrona County High School) Austin Woodward (2009-10, Sheridan), Tommy Earl (2008-09, Natrona County High School) and Alex Stratton (2007-08, Cheyenne East) among the state's list of former award winners.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners, and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com.

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