Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

## CHARLESTON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® ARKANSAS FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (December 5, 2013) — In its 29<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Ty Storey of Charleston High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Arkansas Football Player of the Year. Storey is the first Gatorade Arkansas Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Charleston 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 Storey as Arkansas's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Storey 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 6-foot-3, 215-pound junior quarterback has led the Tigers to a 13-0 record and a berth in the Class 3A state semifinals against Earle, scheduled for Dec. 6. Storey passed for 3,537 yards and 42 touchdowns through 13 games, completing 230 of 342 passes. A MaxPreps Sophomore All-American, Storey was an All-State selection and the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette co-Sophomore Player of the Year.

Storey has maintained a 3.71 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of his church youth group and the Fellowship of Christian athletes, he has volunteered locally as an assistant in a first grade class.

"Storey is a true pocket passer with exceptional size, and one of the best arms in high school football," said Michael Banning, head coach at Clarksville High. "His ability to read defenses and put the ball where it's supposed to be is second to none. He's just a really, really good football player, with great knowledge of the game."

Storey will begin his senior year of high school next fall.

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 the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with USA TODAY High School Sports, 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.

Storey joins recent Gatorade Arkansas Football Players of the Year Austin Allen (2012-2013, Fayetteville High School), Fredi Knighten (2011-12, Pulaski Academy), Kiehl Frazier (2010-11, Shiloh Christian School), Michael Dyer (2009-10 & 2008-09, Little Rock Christian Academy) and De'Anthony Curtis (2007-08, Camden Fairview) 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 <a href="www.gatorade.com/poy">www.gatorade.com/poy</a>.