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**MILLWOOD HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® OKLAHOMA FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 5, 2013) — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Cameron Batson of Millwood High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Oklahoma Football Player of the Year. Batson is the first Gatorade Oklahoma Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Millwood 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 Batson as Oklahoma's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Batson 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-9, 165-pound senior quarterback and wide receiver has led the Falcons to a 13-0 record entering the Class 2A state semifinals, scheduled for Dec. 7. Batson threw for 1,946 yards and 27 touchdowns on 101-of-186 passing entering the postseason final four. A returning First Team Little All-City selection as named by The Oklahoman, Batson also rushed for 1,039 yards and 16 touchdowns on 108 carries in addition to collecting three receptions for 52 yards and two scores though 13 games. As a defensive back, he has recorded 38 tackles and returned three of his nine interceptions for touchdowns.

Batson has maintained a 4.00 GPA in the classroom, ranks No. 1 in his graduating class and serves as senior class president. A member of the student council, National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society, he has volunteered locally on behalf his church's youth group, the Lupus Foundation of America and the annual Walk to Defeat ALS. Batson has also donated his time as a math and science mentor in the University of Oklahoma's Future Health Scientists Partnership Program.

"He is an outstanding player and the leader of his team, but also demonstrates great humility and is a class act on the field," said J.R. Conrad, head coach at rival Dibble High. "It's encouraging to see someone who can dominate the game also demonstrate great sportsmanship after the game. I won Gatorade Player of the Year for Oklahoma as a Fairland High senior and believe he would represent the award well."

Batson has verbally committed to play football on an athletic scholarship at Texas Tech beginning in the fall of 2014.

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.

Batson joins recent Gatorade Oklahoma Football Players of the Year Stanvon Taylor (2012-2013, East Central High School), Andrew Hearon (2011-12, Metro Christian Academy), David Glidden (2010-11, Mustang High School), Demarco Cobbs (2009-10, Central), Timothy Flanders (2008-09, Midwest City High School) and Mark Ginther (2007-08, Jenks) 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 www.gatorade.com/poy.

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