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**OSCAR SMITH HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® VIRGINIA 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 Andrew Brown of Oscar Smith High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Virginia Football Player of the Year. Brown is the second Gatorade Virginia Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Oscar Smith 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 Brown as Virginia's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Brown 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-4, 290-pound senior defensive tackle has led the Tigers to a 13-0 record and a berth in the Division 6 state semifinals against Colonial Forge, scheduled for Dec. 6. Brown has amassed 86 tackles through 13 games, with 17 sacks, 28 tackles for loss, eight forced fumbles and six fumbles recovered. A First Team All-State selection and a USA Today All-USA First Team honoree, he has been chosen to play in the 2014 Under Armour All-America Game. Brown is rated as the nation's No. 4 recruit in the Class of 2014 by ESPN.

Brown has maintained a weighted GPA of 3.64 in the classroom. A devoted member of his church community, he has volunteered locally on behalf of youth football camps.

"Andrew Brown makes a big impression," said Joe Jones, head coach at King's Fork High. "It's not often that you see someone that big move that fast. He's tough, he moves well laterally and he demands double teams. They've got a great defense, but he really stands out."

Brown has verbally committed to play football on an athletic scholarship at the University of Virginia 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.

Brown joins recent Gatorade Virginia Football Players of the Year Jonathan Allen (2012-2013, Stone Bridge High School), Alex Carter (2011-12, Briar Woods High School), Demetrious Nicholson (2010-11, Bayside High School), Phillip Sims (2009-10, Oscar Smith), David Wilson (2008-09, George Washington High School) and Mike Glennon (2007-08, Westfield) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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