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**FOLSOM HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® CALIFORNIA FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 4, 2014) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Jake Browning of Folsom High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade California Football Player of the Year. Browning is the first Gatorade California Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Folsom 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 Browning as California's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Browning 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-2, 205-pound senior quarterback has led the Bulldogs to a 13-0 record and a berth in the Division I CIF Sac-Joaquin Section state championship game against Tracy, scheduled for Dec. 6. At the time of his selection, Browning had passed for 4,652 yards and 76 touchdowns, completing 290-of-419 attempts (69 percent) while throwing just four interceptions. The state's returning Gatorade Football Player of the Year, he has eclipsed his own single-season state record of 75 touchdown passes, which he set as a junior in 2013. With 214 career touchdown passes, he is five shy of tying the national career record of 219, set by two-time Gatorade Ohio Football Player of the Year Maty Mauk.

Browning has maintained a 3.68 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered at his school as a peer tutor and as a youth football coach.

"Jake Browning is an amazing young man with great character, integrity, and humility," said Folsom High head coach Kris Richardson. "When you combine his work ethic with his incredible passing skills and understanding of the game of football, you get one of the greatest quarterbacks in California history."

Taking advantage of new NCAA early signing rules, Browning inked a financial-aid agreement last month that paves the way for him to enroll at the University of Washington. He is expected to graduate from high school this month and begin classes in the spring semester.

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.

Two-time winner Browning joins Gatorade California Football Players of the Year Su'a Cravens (2012-13, Vista Murrieta High School), Zach Kline (2011-12, San Ramon Valley High School), Cody Kessler (2010-11, Centennial High School), Malcolm Jones (2009-10, Oaks Christian School), Ryan Kasdorf (2008-09, Notre Dame High School) and Matt Barkley (2007-08, Mater Dei) 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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