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**CALDWELL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® KENTUCKY 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 Elijah Sindelar of Caldwell County High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Kentucky Football Player of the Year. Sindelar is the first Gatorade Kentucky Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Caldwell County 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 Sindelar as Kentucky's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Sindelar 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-5, 215-pound senior quarterback passed for 3,609 yards and 49 touchdowns this past season, leading the Tigers (11-2) to the Class 2A quarterfinals. Sindelar completed 206 of 294 passes (70 percent), was intercepted just four times and broke the state career record for touchdown passes with 144. A Courier-Journal First Team All-State selection as a junior, he finished his prep career with 12,637 passing yards, the second-highest total in Kentucky history.

Sindelar has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of his church community and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, he has volunteered as a tutor in his school system.

"Sindelar is a tremendous football player and a great competitor," said John Elliott, head coach at Ballard Memorial High. "We've played against him for four years and I've been very impressed with his leadership and his ability to stay cool in pressure situations."

Sindelar has verbally committed to play football on scholarship at Purdue University beginning in the fall of 2015.

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.

Sindelar joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Football Players of the Year Damien Harris (2013-14, Madison Southern High School), James Quick (2012-13, Trinity High School), Patrick Towles (2011-12, Highlands High School), Lamar Dawson (2010-11, Boyle County High School), Antonio Andrews (2009-10, Fort Campbell), Rolandan "Deuce" Finch (2008-09, St. Xavier High School) and John Cole (2007-08, Somerset) 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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