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**ROCKHURST HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® MISSOURI 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 T.J. Green of Rockhurst High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Missouri Football Player of the Year. Green is the fifth Gatorade Missouri Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Rockhurst 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 Green as Missouri's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Green 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-1, 185-pound senior quarterback threw for 2,638 yards and 33 touchdowns against just four interceptions on 146-of-225 passing (65 percent) this past season, leading the Hawkleys (12-2) to the Class 6 state championship game. A finalist for the Thomas A. Simone Memorial Football Award presented to the most outstanding player in the Kansas City metropolitan area, Green also rushed for 366 yards and six touchdowns on 104 carries. He is the son of two-time NFL Pro Bowl quarterback Trent Green.

Green has maintained a 4.21 weighted GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as football instructor for children with physical and mental disabilities, he has volunteered locally serving the elderly, at a homeless shelter, as part of a youth literacy-outreach program, on behalf of Operation Christmas Child and as a fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House Charities.

"The night we played Rockhurst, T.J. Green finished 16-of-18 for 277 yards and four touchdowns. He was unconscious," Ted LePage, head coach of rival Jefferson City High. "We had a good handle on everything, except for him. There's no single-handedness in football, but he made life easy on his team. He's consistent, he's accurate and he hits his wide receivers in stride. The offense all goes through him. They're good, but he just seemed to make them all better."

Green remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Green joins recent Gatorade Missouri Football Players of the Year Dalvin Warmack (2013-14 & 2012-13, Blue Springs High School), Dorial Green-Beckham (2011-12 & 2010-11, Hillcrest High School), Darrian Miller (2009-10, Blue Springs), T.J. Moe (2008-09, Fort Zumwalt West High School) and Nathan Scheelhaase (2007-08, Rockhurst) 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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