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**MIDDLEBURY UNION HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® VERMONT 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 Austin Robinson of Middlebury Union High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Vermont Football Player of the Year. Robinson is the first Gatorade Vermont Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Middlebury Union 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 Robinson as Vermont's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Robinson 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 and safety led the Tigers to an 11-0 record and their second straight Division I state championship this past season. Robinson passed for 504 yards and 10 touchdowns, completing 32-of-50 passes with zero interceptions. A 2014 North South All-Star Football Classic, he also rushed for 470 yards on 52 carries and another 10 scores. Defensively, he recorded 51 solo tackles and an interception for a defense that surrendered just 8.9 points per game.

Robinson has maintained a 3.80 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the Lake Dunmore Fern Lake Association, as a member of his school's nutritional committee and as a youth football and lacrosse referee.

"Austin Robinson is easily the most dynamic player in the state with a very impressive skill set," said Middlebury Union head coach Dennis Smith. "He has the unique challenge of running a true option offense in which he alone fully dictates who ultimately ends up with the ball. He has the best combination of speed, power, elusiveness and toughness of any player we have coached."

Robinson 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.

Robinson joins recent Gatorade Vermont Football Players of the Year Tanner Contois (2013-14, South Burlington High School), Michael Dulac (2012-13, Hartford High School), Jake Stalcup (2011-12, Burr & Burton Academy), Christian McCormick (2010-11, Rice Memorial High School), Max Librizzi (2009-10, Essex), Mick Wong (2008-09, Hartford High School) and James Durham (2007-08, Spaulding) 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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