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BAY PORT HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® WISCONSIN 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 Alec Ingold of Bay Port High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Wisconsin Football Player of the Year. Ingold is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Bay Port 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 Ingold as Wisconsin's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Ingold 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, 220-pound senior quarterback rushed for 2,324 yards and 29 touchdowns on 227 carries this past season, leading the Pirates (12-1) to the Division 1 semifinals. Ingold also completed 87-of-142 passes for 1,411 yards and 15 touchdowns against just three interceptions. A 2014 First Team All-State selection, he ran for an average of 197.2 yards per game and scored 11 rushing touchdowns in four playoff games this fall.

Ingold has maintained a 3.71 GPA in the classroom. He has served as the president of his graduating class in addition to volunteering locally as a youth football coach and wrestling referee as well as on behalf of a food bank.

"Alec Ingold is one of the most dynamic players I have ever watched in person or on film," said Brian Nast, head coach at East High. "He is an unreal player and a great leader and person off the field. In my 14 years of coaching, I cannot think of a better all-around quarterback."

Ingold has verbally committed to play football on scholarship at Northern Illinois 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.

Ingold joins recent Gatorade Wisconsin Football Players of the Year Matt Ferris (2013-14, Xavier High School), Tarek Yaeggi (2012-13, Watertown High School), Vince Biegel (2011-12, Lincoln High School), Melvin Gordon (2010-11, Bradford High School), Eric Oertel (2009-10, Racine Lutheran), Ben Ericksen (2008-09, Greendale High School) and Mitch Sutton (2007-08, Stevens Point Area Senior) 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.