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Contact: Jason Belenke (312-729-3631)

**CHAMPLAIN VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® VERMONT GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 10, 2016) — In its 31st year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Sadie Otley of Champlain Valley Union High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Vermont Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Otley is the fourth Gatorade Vermont Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Champlain Valley 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 court, distinguishes Otley as Vermont's best high school girls basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Basketball Player of the Year award announced in March, Otley joins an elite alumni association of past state girls basketball award-winners, including Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Diana Taurasi (1998-99 & 1999-00, Don Antonio Lugo HS, Calif.), Maya Moore (2005-06 Collins Hill HS, Ga.), Rashanda McCants (2004-05, Asheville HS, N.C.), Shyra Ely (1999-00, Ben Davis HS, Ind.) and Lisa Leslie (1988-89, Morningside HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-8 senior guard had led the Redhawks to a 23-0 record and a berth in the Division 1 state championship game at the time of her selection. Otley averaged 11.8 points, 4.7 assists, 3.5 rebounds and 3.2 steals through 23 games. A First Team All-Metro selection and a First Team Burlington Free Press All-State honoree, she is also a two-time member of the Vermont Basketball Coaches Association Dream Dozen.

Otley has maintained a 3.93 GPA in the classroom. Chairman of her school's Athletic Leadership Council, she has volunteered locally on behalf of the Salvation Army, youth basketball programs and the Environmental Action Club.

"Otley sees the floor so well and she can hurt you in so many ways," said Josh Safran, head coach at Burlington High. "Defensively she's excellent, she can just shut you down."

Otley will attend Tufts University this fall, where she will play basketball.

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.

Otley joins recent Gatorade Vermont Girls Basketball Players of the Year Laurel Jaunich (2014-15, Champlain Valley Union High School), Emily Kinneston (2013-14 & 2012-13, Champlain Valley Union High School), Sarah Illingworth (2011-12, Hartford High School), Kylie Atwood (2010-11, Lake Region Union High School), Allison Gannon (2009-10, Champlain Valley Union High School), Tiffany Johnson (2008-09, Bellows Free Academy), Alyssa Herrington (2007-08, Mt. Anthony Union High School), and Kelli Hier (2006-07, Rice Memorial High School) 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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