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**SAINT PETER'S PREP STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® NEW JERSEY FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 2, 2010) — In its third decade of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Savon Huggins of Saint Peter's Prep. as its 2010-11 Gatorade New Jersey Football Player of the Year. Huggins is the first Gatorade New Jersey Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Saint Peter's Prep..

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 Huggins as New Jersey's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Huggins 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, 200-pound senior running back rushed for 1,891 yards and 35 touchdowns on 173 carries this past season, leading the Marauders (9-2) to the Group IV non-public state semifinals. An Under Armour All-American and returning First Team All-State selection, Huggins also caught 11 passes for 164 yards this fall. In a 44-13 win over Notre Dame in the opening round of the 2010 Group IV non-public playoffs, Huggins rushed for 275 yards and four touchdowns on 26 carries. As a junior in 2009, he rushed for 1,544 yards and 22 touchdowns on 211 carries.

Huggins has maintained a 3.64 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of his church, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and a local food bank.

"We strive for all our players to be complete student-athletes, but he's mastered it," said Saint Peter's Head Coach Rich Hansen. "He does so many things off the field that validate the type of exceptional kid that he is. I think he's as complete a back as you can be at the high school level. He's a student of the game. His stats would be unbelievably gaudy if I left him in games. He played six games without touching the ball after the first possession of the third period. His stats would've been doubled."

Huggins 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 ESPN RISE and the Gatorade high school sports leadership team, 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.

Huggins joins recent Gatorade New Jersey Football Players of the Year Tony Jones (2009-10, Don Bosco Preparatory), Dillon Romain (2008-09, Don Bosco Preparatory) and J.B. Fitzgerald (2007-08, West Windsor-Plainsboro South) 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 [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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