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**ABRAHAM LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® NEW YORK 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 Ishaq Williams of Abraham Lincoln High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade New York Football Player of the Year. Williams is the first Gatorade New York Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Abraham Lincoln 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 Williams as New York's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Williams 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-5, 245-pound senior defensive end and tight end led the Railsplitters to an 11-0 record entering the Public School Athletic League championship game against Forth Hamilton, scheduled for Dec. 7 at Yankee Stadium. At the time of his selection, Williams had recorded 39 tackles, seven sacks, 30 quarterback hurries, and five forced fumbles for a defense that had notched four shutouts and allowed just 6.8 points per game. He had also caught 15 passes for 258 yards and four touchdowns. Williams is the only New York player selected to participate in the 2011 U.S. Army All-American Bowl.

Williams has maintained a B average in the classroom as an upperclassman. He has volunteered locally with an elementary school reading program and youth football clinics.

"He plays well on both sides of the ball, and you have to game-plan around him," said Mike Camardese, head coach of rival Canarsie High. "He moves well, he's aggressive, strong. You have to know where he is all the time."

Williams 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.

Williams joins recent Gatorade New York Football Players of the Year Dan Scalo (2009-10, Monroe-Woodbury), Miguel Maysonet (2008-09, Riverhead) and Latavius Murray (2007-08, Onondaga) 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.

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