

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ashley Ginascol (312-729-3622)

**INDIAN RIVER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® DELAWARE FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 1, 2011) — In its 27th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Jamie Jarmon of Indian River High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Delaware Football Player of the Year. Jarmon is the first Gatorade Delaware Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Indian River 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 Jarmon as Delaware's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Jarmon 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-3, 205-pound senior quarterback has led the Indians to an 11-0 record and a berth in the Div. II championship game against Caravel Academy, scheduled for Dec. 3. Jarmon has passed for 2,022 yards and 24 touchdowns entering the state final, completing 117 of 186 passes while throwing just three interceptions. He has also rushed for 1,302 yards and 26 touchdowns on 142 carries. Jarmon is a three-time First Team All-Southern Division Henlopen Conference selection.

Jarmon has maintained an A-minus average in the classroom. A volunteer firefighter in his community, he has raised funds for Down syndrome programs and has donated his time to youth baseball camps.

"Jarmon is a special, special football player," said David Hearn, head coach of rival Delmar High. "He's fast, he's got good vision, he calls all the plays on the field. He can throw the ball a mile, and he's accurate too."

Jarmon has verbally committed to play baseball on an athletic scholarship at the University of South Carolina beginning in the fall of 2012.

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 ESPNHS 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.

Jarmon joins recent Gatorade Delaware Football Players of the Year Ryan Kilpatrick (2010-11, Salesianum School) C. J. Jones (2009-10, A.I. du Pont), Duron Harmon (2008-09, Caesar Rodney High School) and Brian Potts (2007-08, Caravel Academy) 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.

###