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**WELLS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® MAINE FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 1, 2011) — In its 27<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Louis DiTomasso of Wells High School as its 2011-12 Gatorade Maine Football Player of the Year. DiTomasso is the first Gatorade Maine Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Wells 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 DiTomasso as Maine's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, DiTomasso 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, 180-pound senior linebacker and fullback led the Warriors to a 12-0 record and the Class B state championship this past season. DiTomasso rushed for 1,559 yards and 18 touchdowns on 203 carries. The 2011 Campbell Conference Player of the Year, DiTomasso recorded 133 tackles, forced a fumble, recovered a fumble and blocked a field goal. He ran for 134 yards and a touchdown in the state final win over Leavitt High.

DiTomasso has maintained a B-plus average in the classroom. An avid photographer and artist, he has volunteered locally as a youth football coach.

"Louis DiTomasso has great instincts at linebacker and flies to the play," said Jeff Guerrette, head coach of rival Westbrook High. "At the point of attack he is extremely physical and consistently delivers the blow."

DiTomasso 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 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.

DiTomasso joins recent Gatorade Maine Football Players of the Year Peter Gwilym (2010-11, Cheverus High School) Jack Mallis (2009-10, Windham), Jack Heary (2008-09, Deering High School) and Justin Villacci (2007-08, Gorham) 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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