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**WEST ANCHORAGE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® ALASKA FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (November 29, 2012) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Conor Feckley of West Anchorage High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Alaska Football Player of the Year. Feckley is the fourth Gatorade Alaska Football Player of the Year to be chosen from West Anchorage 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 Feckley as Alaska's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Feckley 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, 195-pound senior quarterback passed for 2,305 yards and 23 touchdowns this past season, leading the Eagles (6-4) to the Large School semifinals. A three-time First Team All-State selection, Feckley set a state record with 7,099 career passing yards. As a senior, he completed 60 percent of his passes while throwing just five interceptions.

Feckley has maintained a 3.30 GPA in the classroom. An active member of his church community, he has volunteered locally in association with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

"Conor Feckley is one of the most dynamic leaders who has ever played football in Alaska," said West Anchorage High head coach Tim Davis. "Not only does he have superior numbers compared to any quarterback in Alaska history, he is also respected by his peers, coaches and community."

Feckley 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 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.

Feckley joins recent Gatorade Alaska Football Players of the Year A.J. Hull (2011-12, Kenai Central High School), Robbie Smithwick (2010-11, Soldotna High School), Justin Kauffman (2009-10, West Anchorage), Anthony Griglione (2008-09, Soldotna High School) and Bill Chimphalee (2007-08, Kenai Central) 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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