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TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® KENTUCKY 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 James Quick of Trinity High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Kentucky Football Player of the Year. Quick is the second Gatorade Kentucky Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Trinity 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 Quick as Kentucky's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Quick 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-1, 185-pound senior wide receiver has led the Shamrocks to a 12-1 record and a berth in the Class 6A state final against Pleasure Ridge Park, scheduled for Dec. 1. Quick caught 82 passes for 1,333 yards and 14 touchdowns through 13 games and broke the state record for career receptions, with 277. A two-time First Team All-State selection, he has been chosen to play in the 2013 U.S. Army All-American Bowl.

Quick has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of a basketball camp for children with disabilities.

"He's got speed, elusiveness, leaping ability," said Mike Glaser, head coach at rival St. Xavier High. "He's as good as there's ever been in this state."

Quick 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.

Quick joins recent Gatorade Kentucky Football Players of the Year Patrick Towles (2011-12, Highlands High School), Lamar Dawson (2010-11, Boyle County High School), Antonio Andrews (2009-10, Fort Campbell), Rolandan "Deuce" Finch (2008-09, St. Xavier High School) and John Cole (2007-08, Somerset) 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.