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ST. JOHN'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® MASSACHUSETTS 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 Alex Moore of St. John's Preparatory School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Massachusetts Football Player of the Year. Moore is the third Gatorade Massachusetts Football Player of the Year to be chosen from St. John's Preparatory 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 Moore as Massachusetts's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Moore 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, 195-pound senior running back and safety has led the Eagles to a 10-1 record and a berth in the Division 1 Eastern Mass. title game against Brockton High, scheduled for Dec. 1. Moore rushed for 840 yards and 13 touchdowns on 106 carries and caught 17 passes for 381 yards and four scores through 11 games, including a 95-yard TD reception in a 9-0 win over rival Xaverian High in the Eagles' regular-season finale. On defense, he has recorded 62 tackles, four interceptions, four forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries.

Moore has maintained a weighted 4.05 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally at a homeless shelter and food bank, and as part of a fundraising campaign to benefit an area hospice program.

"Alex Moore is a very good football player," said Jon Bartlett, athletic director at B.C. High. "He plays both sides of the ball and is probably a better defensive player than on offense. He is the total package."

Moore 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.

Moore joins recent Gatorade Massachusetts Football Players of the Year Jonathan DiBiaso (2011-12, Everett High School), Matt Costello (2010-11, Everett High School), Nick LaSpada (2009-10, Billerica Memorial), Matt Grimard (2008-09, Dracut High School) and Matt Bellomo (2007-08, Holliston) 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.