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**CANYON SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® NEVADA FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (November 29, 2012) — In its 28<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Donnell Pumphrey of Canyon Springs High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Nevada Football Player of the Year. Pumphrey is the second Gatorade Nevada Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Canyon Springs 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 Pumphrey as Nevada's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Pumphrey 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 5-foot-8, 160-pound senior running back ran for 1,296 yards and 19 touchdowns on 143 carries this past season, leading the Pioneers (7-4) to the Division I Sunrise Region semifinals. A two-time Sunrise Region MVP, Pumphrey also caught 12 passes for 114 yards and a score, and returned two kickoffs and a punt for touchdowns. He rushed for a season-high 342 yards and five touchdowns on just 10 carries in a 47-6 win over Foothill High.

Pumphrey has maintained a weighted 3.60 GPA in the classroom. A member of the Canyon Springs High student council, he has volunteered as part of multiple community service initiatives in association with the Kappa League, a local youth group.

"Donnell is a dynamic football player and is definitely the top running back in Nevada," said Elvin Dick, assistant coach at Green Valley High. "Donnell is one of those players that every time he touches the ball he can take it to the house. I believe Canyon is a very good football team without Donnell and with him they are great."

Pumphrey has verbally committed to play football on an athletic scholarship at San Diego State University beginning in the fall of 2013.

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.

Pumphrey joins recent Gatorade Nevada Football Players of the Year Shaquille Powell (2011-12, Bishop Gorman High School), Keegan Buck (2010-11, Foothill High School), Dezerick Reed (2009-10, Del Sol), Tyler York (2008-09, Robert McQueen High School) and Devonte Christopher (2007-08, Canyon Springs) 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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