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**BISHOP CARROLL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® KANSAS FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 4, 2014) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Denzel Goolsby of Bishop Carroll Catholic High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Kansas Football Player of the Year. Goolsby is the third Gatorade Kansas Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Bishop Carroll Catholic 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 Goolsby as Kansas's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Goolsby 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-11, 200-pound senior running back led the Eagles to a 13-0 record and the Class 5A state title this past season. Goolsby rushed for 1,641 yards and 31 touchdowns on 192 carries and caught 16 passes for 251 yards and seven scores. A two-time First Team All-State selection, he returned five punts for TDs and his only kickoff return went 99 yards for a touchdown.

Goolsby has maintained a weighted 3.67 GPA in the classroom. A member of Bishop Carroll's student-run Leadership Team, he has volunteered locally at a special education center and as a youth football coach.

"Denzel Goolsby is a very good and well-rounded football player, and an even better young man," said Brent Pfeifer, head coach of Maize South High. "Watching him on film, he looks like he does some nice things, but when you see him [in person] on the field, it is much more impressive."

Goolsby has verbally committed to play football on scholarship at Kansas State University in the fall of 2015.

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.

Goolsby joins recent Gatorade Kansas Football Players of the Year Joe Dineen (2013-14, Free State High School), Tanner Wood (2012-13, Conway Springs High School), Montell Cozart (2011-12, Bishop Miege High School), Bubba Starling (2010-11, Gardner Edgerton High School), Blake Bell (2009-10 & 2008-09, Bishop Carroll Catholic) and Bryce Brown (2007-08, East) 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 www.gatorade.com/poy.

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