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**LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® NEW YORK FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 4, 2014) — In its 30<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 Jordan Fredericks of Lawrence High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade New York Football Player of the Year. Fredericks is the first Gatorade New York Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Lawrence 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 Fredericks as New York's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Fredericks 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 rushed for 2,158 yards and 35 touchdowns on 183 carries this past season, leading the Golden Tornadoes to the Long Island III championship. A First Team All-State selection, Fredericks also passed for five scores and finished his prep career with 98 touchdowns scored, a Nassau County record.

Fredericks has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has assisted disabled students in his school and has volunteered locally on behalf of youth sports programs, blood donation drives and the Special Olympics.

"He combines everything you want to see in a running back," said David Yaker, Hewlett High assistant coach. "He's got vision, power, speed, skill, hands, cutback ability. He can run through you, over you, around you. He's got phenomenal balance and it's hard to get a clean shot on him."

Fredericks has verbally committed to play football on scholarship at Syracuse University beginning 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.

Fredericks joins recent Gatorade New York Football Players of the Year Curtis Samuel (2013-14, Erasmus Hall), Tyler Rouse (2012-13, C.W. Baker High School), Akeel Lynch (2011-12, St. Francis High School), Ishaq Williams (2010-11, Abraham Lincoln High School), Dan Scalo (2009-10, Monroe-Woodbury), Miguel Maysonet (2008-09, Riverheard High School) and Latavius Murray (2007-08, Onondaga) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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