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ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (December 3, 2015) — In its 31st year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Terrell Hall of St. John's College High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade District of Columbia Football Player of the Year. Hall is the fourth Gatorade District of Columbia Football Player of the Year to be chosen from St. John's College 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 Hall as District of Columbia's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award announced in December, Hall 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-5, 252-pound senior defensive end recorded 42 tackles, 21 tackles for a loss, and nine sacks this past season, leading the Cadets to a 7-4 record and the semifinals of the Washington Catholic Athletic Conference postseason. A two-time First Team All-WCAC selection, Hall also forced two fumbles and recovered two. He has been chosen to play in the 2016 Under Armour All-America Game.

Hall has maintained a B average in the classroom. A devoted member of his church community, he has volunteered locally on behalf of an assisted living facility.

"Hall has a tremendous frame and all the tools: speed off the corner, quick first step, strength, really good leverage," said Keith Goganious, head coach at Bishop McNamara High. "He's a great player with a great future."

Hall 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.

Hall joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Football Players of the Year Richie Petitbon (2014-15, Gonzaga College High School), D'Andre Payne (2013-14, H.D. Woodson High School), Yannick Ngakoue (2012-13, Friendship Collegiate Academy), Albert Reid (2011-12, Friendship Collegiate Academy), Kevin Hogan (2010-11, Gonzaga College High School), Ricardo Young (2009-10, HD Woodson High School), Darin Drakeford (2008-09, Roosevelt High School) and Antwon Bailey (2007-08, St. John's College High School) 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.