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**SAYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE NEW YORK FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 12, 2016) — In its 32<sup>nd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Jack Coan of Sayville High School as its 2016-17 Gatorade New York Football Player of the Year. Coan is the first Gatorade New York Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Sayville 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 Coan as New York's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award to be announced in December, Collins joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Anquan Boldin (1998-99, Pahokee HS, Fla.), Greg Olsen (2002-03, Wayne Hills HS, N.J.), Matthew Stafford (2005-06 Highland Park HS, Texas), Harrison Smith (2006-07 Knoxville Catholic High School, Tenn.), Latavius Murray (2007-08, Onondaga HS, N.Y.), Brock Osweiler (2008-09, Flathead High School, Mont.) and Leonard Fournette (2012-13, 2014-15, St. Augustine HS, La.)

The 6-foot-4, 195-pound senior quarterback passed for 2,153 yards and 31 touchdowns this past season, leading the Golden Flashes to a 10-1 record and the Suffolk County Division III final. Coan completed 158 of 220 passes and was intercepted just four times. He also rushed for 766 yards and 11 touchdowns. The Class A co-Player of the Year and the All-Metro Player of the Year as a junior, Coan set Long Island career records for passing yards and touchdowns.

Coan has maintained an A average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of youth football camps and the Every Child's Dream Foundation, which supports orphaned and abandoned children.

"Coan can do everything on the field," said Sal Ciampi, head coach at East Islip High. "He runs well, he can make any throw he needs to make and he is flawless mechanically. They put a ton of responsibility in his hands and I can count on one hand the mistakes I've seen him make."

Coan has verbally committed to play football on scholarship at the University of Wisconsin in the fall of 2017.

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 Player of the Year Selection Committee, 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.

Coan joins recent Gatorade New York Football Players of the Year Jake Zembiec (2015-16, Aquinas Institute), Jordan Fredericks (2014-15, Lawrence High School), 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), and Dan Scalo (2009-10, Monroe-Woodbury High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Coan will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow the conversation on Twitter #GatoradePOY. 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).