

**TILTON SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 7, 2021) — In its 37th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Jackson Paradis of Tilton School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade New Hampshire Football Player of the Year**. Paradis is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Tilton 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 Paradis as New Hampshire'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, Paradis joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners, including Emmitt Smith (1986-87, Escambia High School, Fla.), Matthew Stafford (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Christian McCaffrey (2012-13 & 2013-14, Valor Christian High School, Colo.).

The 6-foot, 230-pound senior running back rushed for 1,851 yards and 22 scores this past season, leading the Rams (6-3) to the New England Prep School Athletic Council Ken Hollingworth Bowl. Paradis averaged 10.2 yards per carry and broke the 200-yard mark five times in nine games with a highwater mark of 332 yards and four touchdowns in a 48-0 win over Kingswood Oxford School.

Paradis has volunteered locally as a youth football coach. "What makes Jackson so special on the field is his size and speed," said Ben Rulli, head coach of Proctor Academy. "We have been fortunate to have had a lot of great players over the years at Proctor that played at the Power 5 collegiate level. We have played against guys of similar caliber. Jackson Paradis is right up there with all of these players."

Paradis has maintained a 3.18 GPA in the classroom. He has made a verbal commitment to play football on scholarship at the University at Buffalo next fall.

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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Paradis joins recent Gatorade New Hampshire Football Players of the Year Curtis Harris-Lopez (2020-21, Nashua North High School), Malcolm Bussey (2019-20, St. Paul's School), Ryan Toscano (2018-19, Bedford High School), and Andrew Duval (2017-18, Goffstown High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the field. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Paradis has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Paradis is also eligible to submit a short video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY, Instagram at instagram.com/Gatorade and Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.