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recognizing excellence in high school athletics*

## **Palm Beach Dwyer's Elam Named 2009 Florida Dairy Farmers Mr. Football**

Gainesville (Jan. 22) --- Palm Beach Gardens Dwyer senior defensive back Matt Elam was named the 2009 Florida Dairy Farmers Mr. Football following a final round of voting by a statewide panel of high school football coaches and media representatives.

Elam is the 18<sup>th</sup> winner of the annual award sponsored by Dairy Farmers, Inc. and the Florida Athletic Coaches Association to honor the top high school football player for the 2009 season.

During the 2009 season, Elam rushed for 1,895 yards on 193 attempts and scored 29 touchdowns, while on defense he had 92 tackles, eight tackles for loss, six sacks and two interceptions, leading his team to a 14-1 record and the Class 4A state title. He was named a US Army and Under Armour All-America and was named Palm Beach County's Player-of-the-Year. Elam is currently enrolled at the University of Florida.

Elam, who was earlier named Class 4A Player-of-the-Year, finished with 12 first-place votes and 140 points, ahead of Class 6A Player-of-the-Year Jeffrey Godfrey of Miami Central, who was the runner-up with 85 points. Class 2A Player-of-the-Year Matt Younger of Cocoa finished third with 74 points.

The 3A Player-of-the-Year Quentin Williams of Tampa Jefferson, finished fourth with 46 points followed by 5A Player-of-the-Year, Lemarcus Joyner of Ft. Lauderdale St. Thomas Aquinas (45), 1A Player-of-the-Year Ronald Jones of Fort Meade (13), 2B Player-of-the-Year Garrett Hammett of Callahan West Nassau (12) and 1B Player-of-the-Year Kelvin Taylor of Belle Glade Glades Day with 6 points.

The Florida Dairy Farmers Sports Awards program exemplifies Dairy Farmers, Inc.'s commitment to the state's youth. While honoring the state's top athletes and coaches in all 26 FHSSA-sanctioned sports for the 18<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the program also emphasizes to young people the importance of keeping dairy products a primary part of their diet in their overall nutrition plan.

### **2009 Final Voting**

<b>Player</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Total</b>
Matt Elam	12	2	1	140

Jeffrey Godfrey	2	5	5	85
Matt Younger	4	4	1	74
Quentin Williams	0	4	3	46
Lemarcus Joyner	2	1	3	45
Ronald Jones	0	1	1	13
Garrett Hammett	0	0	2	12
Kelvin Taylor	0	0	1	6

**Point totals based on: 1<sup>st</sup> place (10), 2<sup>nd</sup> place (7) and 3<sup>rd</sup> place (6).**

### **Mr. Football Winners**

**1992** - Jammi German, Ft. Myers

**1993** - Shevin Wiggins, Bradenton Manatee

**1994** - Daunte Culpepper, Ocala Vanguard

**1995** - Frankie Franklin, Jacksonville Sandalwood

**1996** - Travis Henry, Frostproof

**1997** - Zain Gilmore, Tampa Robinson

**1998** - Anquan Boldin, Pahokee

**1999** - Willie Green, Kissimmee Osceola

**2000** - Adrian McPherson, Bradenton Southeast

**2001** - Leon Washington, Jacksonville Jackson

**2002** - Andre Reese, Pierson Taylor

**2003** - Xavier Lee, Daytona Seabreeze

**2004** - Antone Smith, Pahokee

**2005** – Tim Tebow, Ponte Vedra Nease

**2006** – Robert Marve, Tampa Plant

**2007** – Jacory Harris, Miami Northwestern

**2008** – A.J. Graham, Tallahassee Godby

**2009** – Matt Elam, William T. Dwyer