

CHICAGO BEARS 2023 COACH OF THE WEEK & HIGH SCHOOL ALL-STAR RECOGNITION - WEEK 4

Sept. 21 - The Chicago Bears have officially named head coach Jeff Boyer of Byron High School in Byron, Ill., as the Chicago Bears High School Coach of the Week and quarterback/defensive back Eddie Jenkins Jr. of Chicago Hope Academy in Chicago, Ill., as the Chicago Bears High School All-Star for week 4.

These recognitions are part of the Coach of the Week and High School All-Stars award programs, which are brought to you by Athletico Physical Therapy. In support of these initiatives, the Bears will make a \$2,000 donation to the Byron football program and direct a \$500 donation to the youth football program of Jenkins' choice.



Jeff Boyer

On Sept. 15, head coach Jeff Boyer guided his team, the Byron Tigers (4-0), to a 69-0 home conference victory against the North Boone Vikings (2-2) on Friday night. The victory not only preserved the Tigers' undefeated record, but also solidified their first place standing in the Big Northern Conference. Into his 12th season with the Tigers football program, coach Boyer has compiled a 105-27 (W-L) record, winning a state championship in 2021, finishing second in 2018 & 2019, and reaching the semi-finals in 2014, 2015 and 2022. Off the field, coach Boyer encourages his players to engage in community service within the Byron community. This includes players reading to local grade school students and mentoring the local junior tackle football program. Additionally, coach Boyer collaborates with Byron High School each year to host a fundraising game where all proceeds from the event go directly to a local hospital. Before becoming the head coach for the Tigers, he attended Byron High School in the late 90s and was the main quarterback for the Tiger's program, helping them win their first-ever state championship. The Tigers are scheduled to face the Oregon Hawks (2-2) on Friday night, Sept. 22.



Eddie Jenkins Jr.

On Sept. 15, the senior quarterback and defensive back, Eddie Jenkins Jr., helped the Chicago Hope Academy (3-1) to a narrow 30-29 away conference victory against the Wheaton Academy Warriors (3-1) on Friday night. With this win, Hope Academy put an end to their conference rival's undefeated record in the Chicagoland Christian Conference. Jenkins completed 22 passes for 262 yards with two passing touchdowns and rushed for 86 yards on 11 carries. He accounted for 348 of Hope Academy's 454 total offensive yards. In addition, as a defensive back, Jenkins contributed four tackles and one pass breakup. Off the field, Jenkins is a dedicated student with a 3.4 GPA and has completed over 100 hours of community service, including involvement with the Special Olympics, Prison Fellowship Ministry, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Youth Camps and other projects. Jenkins and the Hope Academy are determined to secure the top spot in their conference as they prepare to go up against another conference rival, the Chicago Christian Knights (2-2), on Friday night, Sept. 22, at home.

About "Coach of the Week" & "High School All-Star"

The Chicago Bears Coach of the Week program was launched in 1996 and High School All-Star program in 2011. The Coach of the Week program honors outstanding Illinois high school coaches who develop players' football skills and knowledge, character, leadership, discipline and teamwork abilities. The nomination criteria for the High School All-Star program includes on-field performance, community involvement and good sportsmanship. Exceptional high school coaches and players who go beyond expectations are nominated by a panel of local high school sports journalists. The winning candidates are chosen each week from Aug. 25th to Oct. 21st. Since the program's inception, the Bears have donated more than \$369,000 to Illinois high schools in support of their football programs. For more information, please visit ChicagoBears.com/Community/High-School-Football.

