

# CHICAGO BEARS ANNOUNCE THE FINAL HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACH OF THE WEEK AND ALL-STAR AWARD WINNERS - WEEK 9

The Chicago Bears have officially named Daniel Finger, head coach of Whitney M. Young Magnet High School in Chicago, as the final recipient for the Chicago Bears High School Coach of the Week and Frankie Hosty, quarterback of Fenwick High School in Oak Park, as the final recipient for the Chicago Bears High School All-Star for Week 9.

The Coach of the Week and High School All-Star awards, brought to you by Athletico Physical Therapy, recognize outstanding performances and leadership among high school coaches and players in Illinois. As part of the award programs, the Chicago Bears will make a \$2,000 donation to the Whitney Young football program and a \$500 donation to the youth football program of Hosty's choice.

## **Daniel Finger**

On Friday night, Oct. 25, Head Coach Daniel Finger led the Whitney Young Dolphins to a decisive 28-7 victory over the Taft Eagles, clinching the 2024 CPL Regular Season title with an undefeated record. This win also placed the Dolphins at the top of the competitive Chicago Public Red Conference and earned them the top seed in the IHSA Class 7A state playoffs. Throughout the game, Finger strategically guided standout players quarterback Von Konrad and team captain, running back Luke Yolich. Konrad threw two passing touchdowns, while Yolich, who is also a recipient of this year's Chicago Bears High School Latino Youth Leadership Award, added two rushing touchdowns to seal the victory. Finger took over as head coach of the Dolphins in 2019 after serving as an assistant coach specializing in receivers, defensive backs and special teams. A 2012 graduate of Whitney Young and former Division III football player at Hamilton College, Finger brings a strong commitment to his alma mater, blending his experience with strategic coaching to promote both athletic and personal development. Since stepping into the role, Finger has transformed Whitney Young into a strong contender in the Chicago Public League, leading the Dolphins to an impressive 9-0 season with a 7-0 conference record, their best since 2018. Beyond athletic success, Finger prioritizes character development, encouraging his players to excel academically and serve their community. His holistic approach emphasizes resilience, teamwork and accountability, qualities that prepare his athletes for life beyond football. The Dolphins are now set to host the Kenwood Broncos in the first round of the IHSA State playoffs on Friday night, Nov. 1, aiming to advance beyond last year's early-round exit.



## **Frankie Hosty**

On Friday night, Oct. 25, senior quarterback Frankie Hosty delivered an unforgettable and emotional performance, leading the Fenwick Friars to a 36-12 victory over the Carmel Corsairs. With this win, the Friars clinched the Chicago Catholic League/East Suburban Catholic Conference White Division title and secured a spot in the IHSA Class 7A state playoffs. At the beginning of the season, the Fenwick football team faced questions after narrowly missing the playoffs last year with a 4-5 record. This fall, however, the Friars rallied, driven by the leadership and strong performances of quarterbacks Frankie Hosty and Jamen Williams. This game was particularly significant for Hosty, as earlier in the day he lost his father, Ed Hosty, a 1992 Fenwick graduate who had battled cancer for over a year. Despite this profound personal loss, Hosty was unexpectedly called upon to start after quarterback Williams was injured on the game's first play. Rising to the challenge, Hosty showed incredible resilience, completing 7 of 15 passes for 211 yards and delivering three touchdowns, including a 50-yard touchdown pass shortly after taking the field. His strength and determination honored his father's memory in a powerful way. Hosty looks to continue honoring his father as the Friars prepare to host the first round game of the playoffs against the Brother Rice Crusaders on Friday night, Nov. 1, with hopes of claiming the school's second state title, the first being in 2021.



## **About Boys High School Coach of the Week & High School All-Star**

The Chicago Bears High School Coach of the Week program was launched in 1996 and the High School All-Star program in 2011. The High School 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 for the 2024 IHSA football season. Since the program's inception, the Chicago Bears have donated more than \$391,500 to Illinois high schools in support of their football programs. For more information, please visit [ChicagoBears.com/Community/High-School-Football](https://ChicagoBears.com/Community/High-School-Football).

