

JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE FLORIDA FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (December 5, 2025) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Will Griffin of Jesuit High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Florida Football Player of the Year.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their excellence in sport, academics and community. The award recognizes Griffin as Florida's best high school football player, and he joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Peyton Manning (1993-94, Isidore Newman School, LA), Nick Singleton (2021-22, Governor Mifflin High School, PA) and Keelon Russell (2024-25, Duncanville High School, TX).

The 6-foot-3, 225-pound senior quarterback passed for 2,534 yards and 37 touchdowns with just two interceptions this past season, leading the Tigers (11-2) to the Class 4A regional finals. Ranked as the nation's No. 69 recruit in the Class of 2026 by ESPN.com, Griffin delivered three games with four touchdown passes and two games with five. He concluded his prep football career with 12,299 passing yards and 143 touchdowns, the latter ranking No. 2 in state history.

Griffin has volunteered locally as part of multiple community service activities through his school. "Will had one of the great prep football careers in Florida history," said Matt Thompson, head coach of Jesuit High School. "In part because Will was so good this season, Jesuit jumped out to big leads quickly in many games and then didn't throw the ball much. Will's incredible, 37-2 TD-to-interception ratio speaks to how well he performed this season."

Griffin has maintained a B average in the classroom. At the time of his selection, he had made a verbal commitment to receive athletic aid to play football at the University of Florida next fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one state winner from each of the 50 states and Washington D.C., in 12 different sports: football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, baseball, softball, boys and girls soccer, and boys and girls track & field. In total, 610 high school athletes are honored each year. From the pool of state winners, one national winner is selected in each of the 12 sports. 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 winners in each sport.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$6.4 million in grants to winners across more than 2,200 organizations.

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 Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

###