

## **GLASSBORO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEW JERSEY FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 5, 2025) — In its 41<sup>st</sup> year celebrating the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Xavier Sabb of Glassboro High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade New Jersey 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 Sabb as New Jersey'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-1, 185-pound junior wide receiver and defensive back led the Bulldogs to a 14-0 record and a second-straight Group 1 state championship this past season. Sabb caught 59 passes for 897 yards and 13 touchdowns as Glassboro ran its win streak to 27 games with a 29-14 win over Cedar Grove High School in the state final. He also rushed for two scores, passed for another and returned both a kickoff and punt for TDs. Ranked as the No. 18 recruit in the Class of 2027 by ESPN.com, he recorded 15 tackles and four interceptions on defense.

Sabb has volunteered locally as a youth football coach. "Xavier is a tremendous football player and an even better representative of his team," said Kevin Leamy, head coach of Schalick High School. "He's electric with the ball in his hands; a true game-changer who can score from anywhere on the field. But what makes him stand out is how complete his game is. He's a willing blocker on the perimeter, a physical and instinctive defender, and a leader who clearly elevates everyone around him."

Sabb has maintained an A-minus average in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school 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](https://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](https://x.com/Gatorade).

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