

## **V. SUE CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEW MEXICO 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 Jordan Hatch of V. Sue Cleveland High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade New Mexico 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 Hatch as New Mexico'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-4, 185-pound senior quarterback led the Storm to a 12-1 record and a second-straight Class 6A state championship this past season. Hatch passed for 2,888 yards and 40 touchdowns, completing 182-of-242 passes (75.2 percent). He also rushed for four scores. In a 35-28 win over Las Cruces High School in the state final, he passed for one score and also caught a touchdown pass. He was the state's 2024 Rivals.com Mr. Football winner.

Hatch has volunteered locally at the New Mexico School for the Deaf where he has immersed himself in sign language and deaf culture. He's also donated his time as president of the young men's organization at his church. "Jordan is so accurate," said Aaron Ocampo, head coach of Centennial High School. "It's like video game numbers. And most of his throws are down the field; he isn't throwing a lot of bubble screens."

Hatch has maintained a weighted 3.71 GPA in the classroom. He will serve a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints upon graduation and remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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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