

NASHVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE TENNESSEE FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (December 5, 2025) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Jared Curtis of Nashville Christian School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Tennessee 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 Curtis as Tennessee'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).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-4, 226-pound senior quarterback had thrown for 1,863 yards and 31 touchdowns, leading the Eagles (12-0) to the TSSAA Division II Class A state final. Playing in 10 games this fall and often a spectator by the third quarter in lopsided outcomes, he also rushed 60 times for 536 yards and 10 scores, averaging 8.9 yards per carry. The state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, a four-time All-State selection and a finalist for the 2025 Tennessee Titans Mr. Football award, he's ranked as the nation's No. 5 recruit in his class by ESPN and No. 11 by 247Sports.

Curtis has volunteered locally as the organizer of a Cozy Sock drive to benefit Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. In addition to serving as a youth football instructor and various camps and clinics, he has also donated his time to the Ronald McDonald House since 2021. "Jared Curtis is on the verge of another state title and he's an amazing talent," said Steve Wiltfong, vice president of National College Football Recruiting at 247Sports. "(I think he should be) in the National Player of the Year conversation."

Curtis has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has made a verbal commitment to receive athletic aid to play football at the University of Georgia 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.

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