

## **LOUISA COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE VIRGINIA 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 Savion Hiter of Louisa County High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Virginia 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 Hiter as Virginia'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, 200-pound senior running back rushed for 1,440 yards and 24 touchdowns this past season, leading the Lions (11-1) to the Class 4 Region A tournament semifinals. Ranked as the nation's No. 18 recruit in the Class of 2026 by 247Sports.com, Hiter averaged 13.2 yards per carry. A MaxPreps Preseason First Team All-American selection, he concluded his prep football career with 5,529 rushing yards and 84 touchdowns.

A member of his local chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Hiter has volunteered locally with Stuff the Bus, which provides school supplies for students in need. He has also donated his time on behalf of the Louisa Resource Council. "Savion is a special talent—he has all the tools that an elite-level football player should possess," said Brandon Isaiah, head coach of Albemarle High School. "He's strong, has elite lateral movement and plays downhill with purpose. He commands so much attention that he opens up opportunities for his teammates."

Hiter has maintained a 3.06 GPA 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 Michigan 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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