

WARREN TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE ILLINOIS BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 20, 2026) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Jaxson Davis of Warren Township High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Illinois Boys Basketball 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 Davis as Illinois' best high school boys basketball player, and he joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Jayson Tatum (2015-16, Chaminade College Preparatory School, MO), Cooper Flagg (2023-24, Montverde Academy, FL) and Cameron Boozer (2022-23 & 2024-25, Christopher Columbus High School, FL).

The state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot-1, 180-pound junior guard averaged 23.8 points, 5.3 rebounds, 5.3 assists and 3.5 steals per game this past season, leading the Blue Devils (30-4) to the Class 4A sectional semifinals. Davis was also the 2025 Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Mr. Basketball winner. He concluded his junior year with 2,163 points and 576 assists in his prep career.

Davis has volunteered locally with Feed My Starving Children and as a youth basketball coach. "Jaxson is an amazing player," said Ron Ashlaw, head coach of Waukegan High School. "He is one of the most mature players I have seen and has very high basketball acumen. He's a high-level scorer, yet still keeps teammates involved."

Davis has maintained a weighted 3.52 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school this 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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