

SKUTT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEBRASKA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 1, 2026) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Bubba Day of Skutt Catholic High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Nebraska Baseball 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 Day as Nebraska’s best high school baseball player and he joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park, TX), MacKenzie Gore (2016-17, Whiteville High School, NC) and Seth Hernandez (2024-25, Corona High School, CA).

The 6-foot-4, 190-pound junior right-handed pitcher and outfielder led the SkyHawks (28-5) to the Class B state championship this past season. Day, who drove in the game-winning run in the eighth inning of the state title game, picked up the win on the mound in relief. He compiled a 6-0 record with a 0.67 ERA and fanned 60 batters in 42 innings pitched. Ranked as the nation’s No. 47 high school prospect in his class by Prep Baseball, Day also batted .427 with 26 RBI and scored 41 runs.

Day has volunteered locally with the “Stuff the Truck” Christmas toy drive and “Operation Home Run,” a blanket drive for a children’s hospital. He has also donated his time as a Skutt Catholic Student Ambassador and Camp Counselor. “He plays the game at an incredibly high level and his baseball IQ is extremely high,” said Jim Hempel, head coach at Gross Catholic High School. “At the plate, he’s extremely disciplined and displays power, field coverage and a willingness to be patient for pitches he can drive. Defensively, he’s a collegiate-level outfielder.”

Day has maintained a 3.65 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has made a verbal commitment to play baseball on scholarship at Florida State University beginning in the fall of 2027.

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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