

WOODROW WILSON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE WEST VIRGINIA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 12, 2026) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Jackson Schroder of Woodrow Wilson High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade West Virginia Boys Soccer 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 Schroder as West Virginia’s best high school boys soccer player, and he joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Alecko Eskandarian (1999-00, Bergen Catholic High School, New Jersey), Cristian Roldan (2012-13, El Rancho High School, California) and Dan Klink (2024-25, Loyola Blakefield, Maryland).

The 6-foot, 160-pound senior defender anchored a back line that recorded 11 shutouts and allowed just 12 goals this past season, leading the Flying Eagles (20-2) to the Class AAAA state championship game. Schroder also chipped in offensively with one goal and three assists. The 2025 Class AAAA Defender of the Year, he graduates as a two-time First Team All-State selection.

A member of his school’s chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Schroder has volunteered locally with the United Way. He has also donated his time as a youth soccer coach. “Jackson Schroder was a standout,” said Rick George, head coach of Parkersburg South High School. “He’s a fantastic defender with ridiculous speed. He single-handedly kept us from scoring on several occasions.”

Schroder has maintained a weighted 4.48 GPA in the classroom. He will attend Virginia Tech 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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