

DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE MICHIGAN BOYS TRACK AND FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 26, 2026) — In its 41st year celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Zacchaeus Brocks of Detroit Catholic Central High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Michigan Boys Track and Field 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 Brocks as Michigan’s best high school boys track and field athlete and he joins an elite legacy that spans professional athletes and coaches to CEOs, such as Alan Webb (2000-01, South Lakes High School, Virginia), Kerron Clement (2002-03, Laporte High School, Texas) and Tate Taylor (2024-25, Harlan High School, Texas).

The 6-foot, 165-pound senior hurdler broke the tape and set a national prep record in the 110-meter hurdles at the USATF Under-20 Championships earlier this month, edging a freshman from the University of Georgia in a photo-finish lean at the line with a time of 12.98 seconds. Brocks also swept the 110 and 300 hurdles at the MHSAA LP Division 1 State meet, leading the Shamrocks to second place as a team. The 2026 MITCA Athlete of the Year and a 2026 New Balance Nationals Indoor champion, he clocked a personal-best time of 36.23 in the 300 hurdles as well this spring, which ranked No. 12 among prep boys competitors. He’s an eight-time national champion and 16-time All-American in the context of indoor and outdoor high school track as well as AAU competition.

Brocks has performed more than 60 hours of community service in association with DCC, volunteering locally for the homeless and underprivileged in a variety of capacities and raking leaves for neighbors in need. “Great hurdling at the prep level is a marriage of speed and power,” said Rich Gonzalez, editor of PrepCalTrack.com. “Add next-level precision to that union and great becomes the greatest ever. Zacchaeus Brocks fused those three traits in becoming the GOAT of prep hurdling. Just under 13 seconds during an unprecedented display of pure power and perfection. That mark will be very hard to top.”

Brocks has maintained a 3.19 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete on scholarship at The Ohio State University 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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