

BIXBY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE OKLAHOMA 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 Maverick Nance of Bixby High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Oklahoma 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 Nance as Oklahoma’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-1, 210-pound senior thrower won the state title in both the shot put and discus at the Class 6A state meet this past season, leading the Spartans to a seventh-place finish as a team. Nance won the shot with a personal-best throw of 62 feet, 3 inches, which ranked No. 71 among prep boys competitors in 2026. He was also a member of Bixby’s four-time state champion football team.

Nance has volunteered locally as part of multiple community service initiatives through the Bixby High School football program. “It was the shot heard around Oklahoma at the state championships this year when Maverick Nance unloaded a spectacular launch that added more than four feet to his career best,” said Rich Gonzalez, editor for PrepCalTrack.com.

Nance has maintained a weighted 3.44 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at Coffeyville Community College in Kansas 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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