

MEMPHIS CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE TENNESSEE 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 Miles Nesmith of Memphis Central High School is the 2025-26 Gatorade Tennessee 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 Nesmith as Tennessee’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 state’s returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot-3, 180-pound senior jumper won the gold medal in the triple jump at the USATF Under-20 Championships this past season, earning himself a spot in the Under-20 World Championships in Oregon in August. Nesmith also set a state record in the triple jump of 53 feet, 1 inch at the Penn Relays Carnival, a leap that ranked No. 1 nationally among prep boys competitors this spring and No. 12 in prep history. The winner of the long jump and triple jump at the Class AAA state meet, he’s also nationally ranked in two other events this spring: Tied for No. 18 in the high jump (7-0) and tied for No. 46 in the long jump (23-11.75).

Nesmith has volunteered locally at summer track meets. He has also donated his time coaching USA Track & Field youth athletes. “Nesmith’s triple jump mark is stunning these days as excellence in the horizontal jumps is at a premium,” said Rich Gonzalez, editor of PrepCalTrack.com. “His [triple jump] ranks as the No. 12 wind-legal all-time, but 10 of those marks came in 1999 or earlier. There’s only one kid in the country with a wind-legal mark within two feet of him this spring.”

Nesmith has maintained a 3.38 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to compete at Kansas 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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