

**DERBY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE KANSAS FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (December 6, 2024) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Da'Saahn Brame** of **Derby High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Kansas Football Player of the Year**. Brame is the third Gatorade Kansas Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Derby High School.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation’s best high school athletes for their success on the field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Brame as Kansas' best high school football player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Emmitt Smith (1986-87, Escambia High School, Fl.), Peyton Manning (1993-94, Isidore Newman School, La.) and DJ Lagway (2023-24, Willis High School, Texas).

The 6-foot-6, 230-pound senior tight end and punt returner made 40 receptions for 756 yards and 14 touchdowns this past season, leading the Panthers (11-1) to the Class 6A state semifinals. Brame also returned three punts for TDs and rushed for one score. A First-Team All-State selection as a junior, he is ranked as the nation’s No. 50 recruit in the Class of 2025 by Rivals.com.

Brame has volunteered locally as a motivational speaker at elementary schools. He has also donated his time as a youth football coach and as part of multiple community service initiatives through his church. “Da’Saahn obviously has all of the necessary skills to be successful at his position,” said Gary Guzman, head coach of Derby High School. “But what really sets him apart from some of the other great football players is his ability to change the game. Da’Saahn can take over a game and change the momentum in a hurry.”

Brame has maintained a B average in the classroom. At the time of his selection, he had made a verbal commitment to receive athletic aid to play football at the University of Tennessee next fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports - football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field - and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. 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 state winners in each sport.

Brame joins recent Gatorade Kansas Football Players of the Year Omari Elias (2023-24, Kapaun Mount Carmel Catholic High School), Avery Johnson (2022-23, Maize High School), Dylan Edwards (2021-22, Derby High School) and Lem Wash (2020-21, Derby High School), among the state’s list of former award winners.

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 \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 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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