

**JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE LOUISIANA BOYS CROSS COUNTRY PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 13, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Brady Mullen** of **Jesuit High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Louisiana Boys Cross Country Player of the Year**. Mullen is the second Gatorade Louisiana Boys Cross Country Player of the Year to be chosen from Jesuit 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 Mullen as Louisiana’s best high school boys cross country athlete, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Lukas Verzbicas (2009-10 & 2010-11, Carl Sandburg High School, Illinois), Edward Cheserek (2012-13, St. Benedict's Preparatory School, New Jersey) and Daniel Simmons (2022-23 & 2023-24, American Fork High School, Utah).

The state’s two-time returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 5-foot-9, 145-pound senior won the LHSAA Division I state meet this past season with a meet record time of 14:44.22, breaking the tape 14 seconds ahead of his next-closest competitor and leading the Bluejays to a fourth straight team championship. A four-time All-State selection, Mullen took third at the NXN Southeast Regional, the best finish ever for a Louisiana runner. He clocked a 5K personal-best of 14:56.6 last fall to place fifth at the Great American XC Festival in North Carolina.

Active in planting trees throughout the community as part of a nature-preservation initiative, Mullen has volunteered locally in the Hams for Fams program, delivering Thanksgiving dinners to families in need. He has also donated more than 100 hours of his time at the Therapeutic Learning Center (TLC), helping to promote the well being of children across Metro New Orleans. “Brady Mullen’s consistency against high-end interstate competition coupled with his unrivaled performance at the state meet peg him as the clear choice for this year’s top honor,” said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack.

Mullen has maintained a 4.67 GPA in the classroom. He will attend Harvard University this fall, where he will compete in cross country and track.

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.

Three-time winner Mullen joins recent Gatorade Louisiana Boys Cross Country Players of the Year Michael Vocke (2021-22, Jesuit High School) and Dyllon Nimmers (2020-21, Ruston 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.