

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE LOUISIANA BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 3, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Andrew Clapinski of Catholic High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade Louisiana Baseball 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 success on the field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Clapinski as Louisiana's best high school baseball player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Gary Sheffield (1985-86, Hillsborough High School, Florida), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Konnor Griffin (2023-24, Jackson Preparatory School, Mississippi).

The 6-foot, 180-pound senior catcher led the Bears (37-5) to the Division I state championship this past season. Clapinski batted .462 batting with six home runs and 40 RBI, leading his team in nearly every major offensive category. A two-time First Team All-District player and a 2024 First Team All-State selection, he is ranked as the state's No. 9 prospect in the Class of 2025 by Perfect Game.

A devoted parishioner in his church community, Clapinski was named the 2025 Student-Athlete of the Year at his school's annual Honors Convocation. "I have the utmost respect for Andrew Clapinski as a player, but more importantly, as a person," said Jeff Curtis head coach at John Curtis Christian School. "He's been one of the top competitors we've faced over the last two seasons. He was the glue for their team and the one guy we didn't want to let beat us."

Clapinski has maintained a 4.13 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play baseball on scholarship at Louisiana State University at Eunice this 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.

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.