

DON BOSCO PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NEW JERSEY 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 Nick Becker of Don Bosco Preparatory High School is the 2024-25 Gatorade New Jersey 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 Becker as New Jersey'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).

At the time of his selection, the 6-foot-4, 195-pound senior shortstop had led the Ironmen to a 21-2 record and a first-round bye in the Non-Public Group A state tournament. Becker entered the tournament hitting .429 with 12 extra-base hits, including three home runs, and 21 RBI. He's ranked as the No. 21 prospect in the Class of 2025 by Prep Baseball.

Becker has volunteered locally as a youth baseball camp counselor helping teach the game to athletes ranging in age from 6 to 12. He has also donated his time as a Student Ambassador at Don Bosco Preparatory High School, serving as a representative and role model for current and incoming students, leading school tours and assisting with orientation and open house events. "He's got legit power—he'll drive the ball where it's pitched and that makes him incredibly tough to game-plan for," said James Manco, head coach at Pope John XXIII Regional High School. "If you don't get ahead of him, he will definitely barrel up a ball. He's a complete player on both sides of the ball. The numbers back it up and he's doing it against top-tier competition."

Becker has maintained an A average in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play baseball at the University of Virginia this fall but is projected as an early round selection in July's Major League Baseball First Year Player Draft.

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.