

LEGACY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE NORTH DAKOTA BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 12, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Kamden Kooiman** of **Legacy High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade North Dakota Boys Soccer 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 Kooiman as North Dakota's best high school boys soccer player, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School, M.D.) and Ransford Gyan (2022-23 & 2023-24, St. Benedict's Preparatory School, N.J.).

The 6-foot-1, 187-pound senior midfielder and forward led the Sabers to a 12-3-4 record and the state championship this past season. Kooiman scored 14 goals and passed for 11 assists, setting up the lone score in Legacy High School's 1-0 win over West Fargo High School in the state final. A First Team All-State and First Team All-Tournament honoree, he also scored the game-winning goal in overtime to clinch Legacy High School's state semifinal victory.

Kooiman has volunteered locally at Papa's Pumpkin Patch during the Halloween season and on behalf of Heaven's Helpers, a community homeless shelter and food bank. He has also donated his time to Furry Friends Rockin' Rescue animal shelter. "There's a reason he had the name 'Kamden the Gladiator,'" said Kyle Rhinehart, head coach of Williston High School. "In any moment of need, Kamden was there and led his team to the program's first state title."

Kooiman has maintained a weighted 3.94 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to play soccer at Colorado Mesa University 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.

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