

# CHICAGO BEARS ANNOUNCE THE EIGHTH 2024 COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL ALL-STAR AWARD WINNER

Recognizing student-athletes who go above and beyond for their community and school

April 26, 2024 - The Chicago Bears proudly announce Grant Cochonour, a senior student-athlete from Casey-Westfield High School in Casey, Ill., as the eighth recipient of the 2024 Community High School All-Star award. This award, brought to you by Athletico Physical Therapy, recognizes nine high school football players from March through May who make a positive impact in their communities and schools.

Described by his coaches as having a "servant heart," Grant's extensive involvement in his local community and church exemplifies his commitment to service. He has been a proactive member of the Casey United Methodist Church, where he has led youth groups for six years and regularly serves as an usher and liturgist. His commitment extends to participating in the Bell Choir, attending rehearsals and performing several times throughout the year. In his community, Grant is a familiar face at the Casey Food Pantry and the Casey Popcorn Festival, where he volunteers annually in various capacities. Additionally, he mentors youths as part of the lunch buddy program at Monroe Elementary School, helping create healthy attitudes and behavior in youth, as well as providing skills, resources and positive experiences that will aid them in becoming successful, productive students.

On the field, Grant has demonstrated exemplary leadership on the field, truly embodying the values of integrity, honesty and hard work. As a versatile three-sport athlete, he plays as a linebacker and tight end for his varsity football team, a shooting forward in basketball and a sprinter/middle-distance runner in track and field. Despite juggling multiple athletic roles, Grant has achieved commendable recognition, including being named a 2nd team All-Conference linebacker and receiving Honorable Mention as a tight end for football. His basketball prowess is marked by consistent three-point shooting and excellent defense. And, Grant showcased his athletic versatility by qualifying for the IHSA State Track Meet in 2023 as a member of the 4 x 4 Relay Team.

In the classroom, Grant has played a crucial role in establishing the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Organization at Casey-Westfield High School, an interdenominational Christian sports ministry to see the world impacted for Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes. Through this, he inspires his classmates and teammates to excel and feel valued.

Each Community High School All-Star award recipient will receive a custom hand-painted football, gift bag and an invitation to a future Chicago Bears event. Additionally, the Chicago Bears will make a \$500 donation to the charitable organization of the player's choosing.

## **About Community High School All-Star Award**

The Chicago Bears are proud to partner with Athletico Physical Therapy to present the Chicago Bears Community High School All-Star Award that recognizes high school football and girls flag football players who make a positive impact in their community and school. These student-athletes exemplify service, leadership and character. The Chicago Bears Community High School All-Star is an off-season initiative that encourages student-athletes to be involved in community service during offseason, and take the lessons learned through playing the sport of football and use them to benefit their community.



*Grant awarded with a custom hand-painted football at Casey-Westfield High School by the Chicago Bears.*