

CHICAGO BEARS ANNOUNCE THE NINTH & FINAL 2024 COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL ALL-STAR AWARD WINNER

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

May 2, 2024 - The Chicago Bears proudly announce Clayton Shomaker, a senior student-athlete from Carlyle High School in Carlyle, Ill., as the ninth and final 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.

Clayton's commitment to community service is a testament to his dedication to making his community better. As a leader in Carlyle High School's Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter, he has played a key role in various programs, welcoming new young members who aspire to careers in teaching, medicine, science, business and more. FFA is a dynamic youth organization fostering leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Additionally, he also participates in Farm Safety Day, guiding youth with the knowledge, training and resources to make farm, ranch and rural life safer and healthier for children and their communities.

On the field, Clayton's athletic achievements demonstrate leadership and determination. As a four-season player for the Carlyle High School varsity football team, he was a two-way starter at tight end and outside linebacker, as well as a team captain during his senior season. Despite being undersized for these positions, Clayton earned his starting roles due to his relentless work ethic during practices, ensuring he can be the best player and teammate in every game, doing what it takes to win. His coach describes him as resilient and dedicated, noting that Clayton has not missed a single practice in his four years at the high school, including rigorous off-season workouts.

Clayton's achievements extend to the classroom. He has maintained an impressive 3.9 GPA on a 4.0 scale, earning a place on the high honor roll for all four years of high school. His coach highlights his commitment to academic excellence, particularly given the challenges of the AP classes he has taken since his junior year. As his senior year concludes in 2024, Clayton is preparing for the next chapter in his life.

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.



Clayton awarded with a custom hand-painted football at Carlyle High School by the Chicago Bears.