

CHICAGO BEARS NAME PEYTON BROOKS WILLIAMS THIRD RECIPIENT OF THE 2026 COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL ALL-STAR AWARD

The Chicago Bears announce Peyton Brooks Williams, a junior student-athlete at Bolingbrook High School in Bolingbrook, Ill., as the third recipient of the 2026 Community High School All-Star Award, brought to you by Athletico Physical Therapy.

As part of its ongoing recognition of high school student-athletes throughout March and April who demonstrate leadership, character and a positive impact beyond the game, the Chicago Bears highlight Peyton for his commitment to serving others and strengthening his community.

Recognized by his football coaches as a student who consistently looks for ways to give back, Peyton has dedicated much of his time to supporting causes that uplift others. Throughout his high school years, he has been actively involved with Deneen's Dream, a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering individuals and families impacted by cancer. Through his volunteer work with the organization, Peyton contributes to several initiatives designed to provide encouragement and assistance to those navigating cancer treatment.

This past year, Peyton supported the organization through The Pink Walk, an annual community event that raises funds and awareness for breast cancer research and patient support. During the event, he helped coordinate walk-day logistics while engaging directly with participants, walking alongside families and joining them in activities. Peyton also contributed to the event's Cancer Thriver Wall, helping create a space where individuals can share messages of strength, hope and resilience.

Peyton further supports the organization by assisting with the preparation and delivery of Thriver Care Packages to cancer patients, assembling supplies that provide both practical resources and emotional encouragement. During the holiday season, he also volunteers with the organization's Give Love on Christmas Day initiative, helping organize toy drives and spending time with young athletes and families to spread holiday cheer.

In addition to his work with Deneen's Dream, Peyton is involved with his local church, where he serves as a youth mentor and participates in community outreach efforts, youth engagement programs and service projects. In these roles, he emphasizes the importance of supporting youth through reliability, respect and a willingness to serve wherever help is needed, values he grew up with.

While making an impact through service, Peyton also maintains dedication in the classroom and within his school community. He carries a strong GPA while balancing the demands of athletics, leadership and volunteer commitments. Coaches and teachers recognize him as a disciplined and dependable student who consistently works to grow both academically and personally.

That same commitment is shown on the field, where Peyton has become a key contributor to the Bolingbrook Raiders football team. A three-year varsity starter and current team captain as a junior, Peyton has established himself as a standout defensive lineman known for his explosiveness and strength. He was named the runner-up Defensive Player of the Year in the Southwest Prairie Conference (SPC) and helped lead the Raiders to a 9-3 overall record, a first-place conference finish and a quarterfinal appearance in the IHSA Class 8A State Playoffs during the 2025 season.

In addition to football, Peyton is also a two-sport athlete, competing for Bolingbrook's track and field team in the spring.

As part of the Community High School All-Star Award, each recipient will receive a custom hand-painted football, a gift bag and an invitation to a future Chicago Bears event. Additionally, the Chicago Bears will donate \$500 to a charitable organization of the honoree's choosing.

About Community High School All-Star Award

Now in its sixth year, the Community High School All-Star Award continues to highlight student-athletes who make meaningful contributions to their schools and communities. In partnership with Athletico Physical Therapy, the Chicago Bears created this initiative to recognize high school football and girls flag football players who use their leadership, teamwork and service to create a lasting impact beyond the season. The program encourages student-athletes to stay engaged in their communities during the offseason, using their platform to give back through volunteerism, mentorship and service initiatives. Since its inception, the program has recognized more than 45 student-athletes and contributed more than \$22,500 to charitable organizations selected by the honorees.

