



ALL-COUNTY BOYS SOCCER

Offensive Player of the Year CHRIS VASQUEZ MOLINA

BRUNSWICK SENIOR FORWARD

■ No one found the back of the net as much as Vasquez Molina. He scored in each game he played and averaged close to a hat trick per match, finishing with 40 goals. That smashed the Railroaders' single-season record and fell just shy of the Frederick County mark. He added five assists for a county-high 85 points, finishing his high school career with 70 goals, second-most in program history, and 18 assists.

■ His offensive surge continued into the postseason, powering Brunswick's run to the Class 1A state final for the second straight season. Vasquez Molina notched a Roaders single-game record seven goals in a state quarterfinal win over Snow Hill.

■ Vasquez Molina was named to the all-state second team by the Maryland Association of Coaches of Soccer.



Defensive Player of the Year ZACH SHEFFIELD

URBANA SENIOR DEFENDER

■ The unquestioned leader and top defender for Frederick County's top defensive team, few opponents got by Sheffield and his back line. The captain helped the Hawks surrender 0.71 goals per game, by far the lowest mark in the area, while allowing few chances to get through in the first place. His efforts helped Urbana win the Central Maryland Conference Large School title.

■ Sheffield was also an integral part of the Hawks' attack, setting up the team in transition and taking many of their set pieces. His eight assists led Urbana and ranked fourth in Frederick County, while he added three goals for 14 points.

■ Sheffield was named to the all-state first team by the Maryland Association of Coaches of Soccer, one of two Frederick County players to receive that honor.

FIRST TEAM

CESAR AGUILAR SENIOR MIDFIELDER MIDDLETOWN

■ The Knights' unquestioned leader and four-year starter capped his high school career by scoring 10 goals for the second straight season, doing so from a defensive midfielder position, while adding four assists and helping the back line.



ARMAN ALIBAKHSI SENIOR MIDFIELDER URBANA

■ He proved to be an effective two-way threat, helping the Hawks win the CMC Large School title. He scored three goals and added four assists for 10 points while working in tandem with a back line that allowed a county-low 0.71 goals per game.



SEAN BOSCO SENIOR MIDFIELDER WALKERSVILLE

■ The Lions' most dangerous offensive threat served as a catalyst for their late surge. He scored five goals and added three assists for 13 points, also helping the defense surrender just over one goal per game, one of the lowest marks in the county.



GABE CABEZA JUNIOR FORWARD BRUNSWICK

■ A high-energy complement to Chris Vasquez Molina, Cabeza routinely found the back of the net in the clutch. His 16 goals, 10 assists and 42 points ranked second on the team, helping lead the Roaders to the Class 1A state final for the second straight season.



ELIEL DIAZ SENIOR MIDFIELDER THOMAS JOHNSON

■ He was the Patriots' most consistent threat, driving play and helping TJ have one of its best seasons in years. Diaz notched five goals and three assists for 13 points in the regular season while stanching opposing chances when back on defense.



BEN GRIFFIN SENIOR FORWARD LINGANORE

■ Few were as complete and reliable as Griffin. The Army commit turned it on down the stretch to finish with six goals, five assists and 17 points, leading the Lancers to one of the best seasons in school history and earning first team all-state honors.



CONNOR GRIMM SENIOR MIDFIELDER MIDDLETOWN

■ An energetic midfielder, Grimm powered the Knights in the attacking end. The senior finished with eight goals and six assists for 22 points, contributing to nearly half of Middletown's tallies to move into the top 25 in school history for scoring.



N'TONY KALALA SENIOR FORWARD TUSCARORA

■ A dangerous scorer and deft playmaker, few drove an attack like Kalala. His 23 goals, 11 assists and 57 points all ranked second in the county as he powered the relentless Titans to the Class 3A state semifinals. He was named to the all-state second team.



GABE PASCHALIDES SENIOR MIDFIELDER BRUNSWICK

■ Few distributed the ball like Paschalides, who had 24 assists to lead the county for the second straight year. His field vision drove the Roaders to the Class 1A state final. He mostly set up top scorer Chris Vasquez Molina, chipping in five goals of his own.



KOLLIN PURGASON SENIOR GOALKEEPER WALKERSVILLE

■ The county's most consistent keeper anchored one of the region's top defenses and contributed to the Lions' late surge. The Hood College commit had a 1.06 goals against average, authoring six shutouts and saving 87% of the shots he faced.



WILBUR RICKETTS SENIOR FORWARD URBANA

■ A dynamic offensive threat, Ricketts powered one of the county's most prolific attacks by scoring nine goals, dishing seven assists and totaling 25 points. He helped Urbana win the CMC Large School title and was named an all-state honorable mention.



TYLER RIGGS JUNIOR MIDFIELDER TUSCARORA

■ He rarely came off the field as the season wore on, proving himself to be the Titans' top all-around player. Riggs tallied three goals and four assists from a holding midfield role, helping Tuscarora reach the Class 3A state semifinals.



WYATT VALENZUELA SENIOR FORWARD LINGANORE

■ The speedy striker had one of the top finishing touches in the county, helping the Lancers author one of the best seasons in school history. He capped his high school career with a team-leading 12 goals, three assists and 27 points.



CONNOR WALSH SENIOR DEFENDER OAKDALE

■ The Bears were at their best when he anchored the back line. Walsh started every match, keeping Oakdale in many close contests during a transition year for the program. He added a goal and an assist on offense.



SECOND TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Grade
D	SEBASTIAN ACHUO	THOMAS JOHNSON	SENIOR
D	WILL BARNES	URBANA	JUNIOR
D	MICHAEL DIPITA	THOMAS JOHNSON	SENIOR
F	MALACHI DWUMAAH	TUSCARORA	SENIOR
D	SULLIVAN GIVENS	BRUNSWICK	SENIOR
F	TREY GLASS	CATOCTIN	JUNIOR
F	CHARLIE GLASSMAN	LINGANORE	JUNIOR
M	ELI GLICKMAN	WALKERSVILLE	JUNIOR
D	BADR GOHAR	LINGANORE	SENIOR
F	BRYCE KENST	URBANA	JUNIOR
F	ZACHARY KERR	CATOCTIN	SENIOR
G	ZACH LEDDER	MIDDLETOWN	JUNIOR
M	JACOB MARTINS	LINGANORE	SENIOR
M	SEAMUS MYLES	OAKDALE	JUNIOR
G	OWEN PAMPLIN	OAKDALE	JUNIOR
F/D	NATHAN RAMSAY	WALKERSVILLE	SENIOR
D	HUGO RIVAS	FREDERICK	JUNIOR
D	MUSSIE TARIKU	TUSCARORA	SENIOR
M	DREW THIEDE	BRUNSWICK	SENIOR

HONORABLE MENTION

- Brunswick** — Matthew Garcia, Liam Zito
- Catoctin** — Ethan Roark
- Frederick** — Kevin Le, Jose Vasquez Lopez
- Linganore** — Brooks Acton, Kevin Argueta, Andrew Griffin
- Middletown** — Ben Beckman
- Oakdale** — Tommy Everly, Lucas Leibowitz, Brendan Wall
- St. John's Catholic Prep** — Joseph Saccioa
- Thomas Johnson** — Jack Barnes, Ruben Reyes
- Tuscarora** — Kobe Nguyen, Ian Vargas
- Urbana** — Ben McCarron, TJ Spangler
- Walkersville** — Joshua Bolanos, Jorge Calderon, Jonathan Raub

Patriots star WR Diggs faces strangulation charges, denies allegations

BOSTON (AP) — New England Patriots star wide receiver Stefon Diggs is facing strangulation and other criminal charges in connection with a dispute with his former private chef, police said.

News of the charges emerged after a court hearing Tuesday in Dedham, Massachusetts. Diggs is charged with felony strangulation or suffocation and misdemeanor assault and battery.

Diggs' lawyer, David Meier, said in an emailed statement that Diggs "categorically denies these allegations."

Meier said the allegations never occurred, describing them as unsubstantiated and uncorroborated. A court arraignment is scheduled for Jan. 23.

"The timing and motivation for making the allegations is crystal clear: they are the direct result of an employee-employer financial dispute that was not resolved to the employee's satisfaction," Meier wrote.

In a statement, the Patriots said they were also standing by Diggs: "We support Stefon," the team said.

A police narrative in a court filing about the case said a woman came to the Dedham Police Department on Dec. 16 to say that two weeks earlier, while working as a private chef for Diggs, he came into her bedroom and became angry during a discussion about money. The woman told police Diggs "smacked her across the

face," she tried to push him away and then he "tried to choke her using the crook of his elbow around her neck."

"She said that he was behind her with his arm wrapped around her," wrote Officer Kenneth J. Ellis. "She said that she did feel like she had trouble breathing and that she felt like she could have blacked out." Diggs threw her on a bed and said "lies" when she told him she

had not been paid, Ellis wrote.

The chef sought payment for a week in November when Diggs was having houseguests and she had to go home, Ellis wrote. The woman "left her position" and the home in Dedham but returned on Dec. 9 to retrieve her property. At that point, she told police, Diggs referred her to his assistant, who told the woman she had to sign a non-disclosure agreement before she would be paid. She did not sign it, police said.

The woman was reluctant to file charges until last week, Ellis wrote, when "she let me know that she had changed her mind from a few days ago" and wanted criminal charges.

Diggs, 32, established himself

as one of the NFL's best wide receivers during a run with Minnesota and Buffalo from 2018 to 2023, when he had six consecutive 1,000-yard receiving seasons and was selected to the Pro Bowl four times.

After a lackluster stint in Houston last year, Diggs ended up in New England, signing a three-year, \$69 million deal in free agency that guaranteed him \$26 million.

Diggs has proven a reliable target for second-year quarterback Drake Maye and is a big reason why the team has once again clinched the AFC East title as the team heads toward the playoffs.



S. Diggs