

Recruiting: 2026 QB Brandon Accepts All American Bowl Invitation, Buckeyes In Pettijohn's Top Four



When Chip Kelly went to go watch 2026 Greensboro (N.C.) Grimsley four-star quarterback Faizon Brandon (6-4, 195) throw on April 30, he was impressed enough to extend an offer to the signal caller on the same day.

I am excited and blessed to say that I have received my 22nd D1 offer from The Ohio State University!! #AGTG @e43fitness @RecruitGrimsley @grimsleyfb @AnnaH247 @BrianDohn247 @MohrRecruiting @RivalsFriedman @ChadSimmons_ @ryandaytime @CoachRLarkin pic.twitter.com/gOzyr2XmAd

— Faizon Brandon (@faizon_brandon) May 1, 2024

According to a report from Anna Adams of 247Sports, Brandon has now set a date for an official visit to Columbus. He will be in town after the weekend of May 31, after visiting Tennessee over that weekend.

Brandon has also accepted an invitation to play in the 2026 All-American Bowl, which will take place in January of that year, and will be broadcast on NBC, though the official date is not yet set. The 2025 version of the game is scheduled for Jan. 11.

I am extremely honored and blessed to be officially invited to the All American Bowl for the Class of 2026!! I'm excited to say that I accept this invitation!! #AGTG @AABonNBC @ErikRichardsUSA @247Sports @AnnaH247 @grimsleyfb pic.twitter.com/isMUWTmzSr

— Faizon Brandon (@faizon_brandon) May 9, 2024

Brandon is ranked the No. 53 ranked recruit in the nation by 247Sports Composite, the No. 4 quarterback and the No. 3 player in the state of North Carolina. 247Sports has him ranked as the No. 1 overall recruit in the country for the class of 2026.

LB Pettijohn Down To Four

McKinney, Texas, four-star linebacker Riley Pettijohn (6-2, 205) is a player that Ohio State linebackers coach James Laurinaitis has been after since he was offered on Sept. 14 of last year, and now Pettijohn has included the Buckeyes in his top four schools as he narrows his list down.

The four he said he is deciding between, according to Bill Kurelic of 247Sports, are Ohio State, Texas A&M, Texas and USC. He is the No. 34 recruit in the country, the No. 4 linebacker and the No. 9 ranked player in the state of Texas.

In his junior season, Pettijohn totaled 120 tackles (10 for a loss), three sacks, five passes broken up and an interception.

The Buckeyes have already landed two linebacker commitments in the class of 2025 in Vero Beach, Fla., four-star Tarnos Alford (6-2, 210) and Akron (Ohio) Archbishop Hoban three-star Eli Lee (6-3, 215).

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