

BORAH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE IDAHO BOYS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (February 11, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced **Nathan Green of Borah High School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Idaho Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year**. Green is the first Gatorade Idaho Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Borah High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Green as Idaho's best high school boys cross country runner. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year award to be announced in February, Green joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Lukas Verzbicas (2010-11, 2009-10 Carl Sandburg, Orland Park High School, Ill.), Donn Cabral (2007-08, Glastonbury High School, Glastonbury, Conn.) and Chris Derrick (2007-08, Neuqua Valley High School, Naperville, Ill.).

The 5-foot-10, 138-pound sophomore won the Class 5A state meet this past season with a time of 15:10.07, breaking the tape 4.98 seconds ahead of his next-closest competitor and leading the Lions to a fifth-place finish as a team. Green earned All-American status by finishing 18th at the Nike Cross Nationals Final with a time of 15:20.0. He took second at the NXN Northwest Regional championships to qualify for the national title race.

Green has volunteered locally as a youth cross country coach, and he has donated his time to multiple community service initiatives through his church youth group. "The one thing that sets Nathan apart is his focus and intensity when he races," said Aaron Olswanger, head coach of Boise High. "It's apparent he doesn't like to lose and he has become a very savvy racer. You also won't find many kids who have the type of finishing kick he does at the end of a cross country race."

Green has maintained a 3.31 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his junior year of high school this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Green joins Gatorade Idaho Boys Cross Country Runners of the Year Nicholas Russell (2017-18, Bishop Kelly High School), Austin Byrer (2016-17, Lewiston High School), Austin Stewart (2015-16, Shelley High School), and Elijah Armstrong (2014-15 & 2013-14, Pocatello High School) as athletes who have won the cross country award since its inception in 2007.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Green has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

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