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**DEERFIELD ACADEMY STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE MASSACHUSETTS GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 13, 2011) — In its 26<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Ariel Beauregard-Breton of Deerfield Academy as its 2010-11 Gatorade Massachusetts Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year. Beauregard-Breton is the first Gatorade Massachusetts Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Deerfield Academy.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the racecourse, distinguishes Beauregard-Breton as Massachusetts's best high school girls cross country runner. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year award to be announced in January, Beauregard-Breton joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ryan Hall (1999-00, 2000-01, Big Bear HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Kevin Garnett (1992-93, Maudlin HS, S.C.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-5 senior raced to the Division I New England Private School Track Association individual championship this past season with a time of 17:55, setting a course record and leading the Big Green to third place as a team. The 2010 Canterbury Invitational champion, Beauregard-Breton also captured 10th place at the Foot Locker Northeast Regional championships, crossing the line in 18:28 to qualify for nationals. She was the fastest Massachusetts runner at the national Foot Locker Cross Country Championships, earning 17th place with a time of 17:59.

Beauregard-Breton has maintained an 88.7 average in the classroom. An accomplished and award-winning artist, she has volunteered locally on behalf of multiple charity-fundraiser initiatives.

"Ariel Beauregard-Breton is an extremely talented distance runner who blew away the New England prep school competition this fall," said Becky Purdy, head coach of the rival Loomis Chafee School. "In her strong and untiring stride, her focused and no-nonsense racing and her genuine manner toward her teammates, she strikes me as a runner with a future, not just a flash-in-the-pan high school superstar."

Beauregard-Breton will attend the University of Pennsylvania this fall, where she will compete in track & field and cross country.

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. The selection process is administered by ESPN RISE and the Gatorade high school sports leadership team, which work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Beauregard-Breton joins Gatorade Massachusetts Girls Cross Country Runners of the Year Andrea Keklak (2009-10, Lincoln-Sudbury Regional) and two-time winner Emily Jones (2007-08 & 2008-09, The Bromfield School) as athletes who have won the cross country award since its inception in 2007.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners, and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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