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**COE-BROWN NORTHWOOD ACADEMY STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE BOYS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 17, 2013) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Jeremy Brassard of Coe-Brown Northwood Academy as its 2012-13 Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year. Brassard is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Coe-Brown Northwood 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 Brassard as New Hampshire'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 January, Brassard 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 6-foot junior raced to the Meet of Champions individual title this past season with a time of 15:46.1. Also the Runner of the Year as named by the Union Leader, Concord Monitor, Foster's Daily Democrat and New Hampshire Cross Country Coaches Association, Brassard also won the Division II individual championship in 16:08. Brassard captured a state-best 19th place at the New England Championships in 16:52.77 and finished 74th at the Nike Cross Nationals Northeast Regional championships in 17:11.7. He concluded the regular season unbeaten against New Hampshire competition.

Also a track standout, Brassard has maintained a B average in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as part of food drives and community cleanup efforts, he has volunteered locally on behalf of the Boy Scouts of America, the Special Olympics, Court Appointed Special Advocates and The Way Home, an affordable-housing non-profit.

"Jeremy has overcome challenges not only to become one of the best athletes in the Northeast, but more importantly, has learned the value of citizenship and has given back tenfold," said Coe-Brown coach Tim Cox. "Running-wise, while working a full-time camp counselor job away from home this past summer, Jeremy would do most of his training at 5 a.m. This is what separated him athletically from his peers."

Brassard will begin his senior 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. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with [USA TODAY High School Sports](#), 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.

Brassard joins Gatorade New Hampshire Boys Cross Country Runners of the Year Colton Ham (2011-12, Merrimack Valley High School), Samuel Gagnon (2010-11, Manchester Central High School), Eric Jenkins (2009-10, Portsmouth), Eric Malnati (2008-09, Fall Mountain Regional), and Alex McGrath (2007-08, ConVal) 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 www.gatorade.com/poy.

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