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BROOKINGS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE SOUTH DAKOTA 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 Addison DeHaven of Brookings High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade South Dakota Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year. DeHaven is the first Gatorade South Dakota Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Brookings 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 racecourse, distinguishes DeHaven as South Dakota'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, DeHaven 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-11, 130-pound junior raced to the Class AA individual state championship this past season with a time of 15:53.80, leading the Bobcats to a third place finish as a team. A First Team All-State selection, DeHaven earned 10th place at the Nike Cross Nationals Heartland Regional championships, crossing the line in 15:47.1. He also finished 23rd at the Foot Locker Midwest Regional championships with a time of 15:25.

DeHaven has maintained a 3.46 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of multiple charity-fundraiser road races and as a youth cross country coach.

"Addison DeHaven has developed a fantastic work ethic when it comes to just about anything in life," said Brookings High head coach Chris Gruenhagen. "His hard work has paid off in both the classroom and in his races and it will take him a long way in the future."

DeHaven will begin his senior year of high school this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

DeHaven joins Gatorade South Dakota Boys Cross Country Runners of the Year Tony Smoragiewicz (2011-12 & 2010-11, Rapid City Central High School), Josh Heitkamp (2009-10, Washington), Alex Muntefering (2008-09, Parkston), and Bill Kogel (2007-08, Roosevelt) 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.