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**HEBRON HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE TEXAS BOYS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 17, 2013) — In its 28<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Robert Domanic of Hebron High School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Texas Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year. Domanic is the first Gatorade Texas Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Hebron 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 Domanic as Texas'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, Domanic 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 senior raced to the Class 5A individual state championship this past season with a time of 15:04. Domanic won the Nike Cross Nationals South Regional championship in 15:09.1 and finished fifth at the NXN Final with a time of 17:22. He also captured fifth at the Foot Locker South Regional championship and was 15th at the national Foot Locker Cross Country Championships.

Domanic has maintained a 3.50 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of youth running programs.

"Robert is the hardest-working runner I have ever had," said Hebron coach Jason Grennier. "He believed early on that he could be a great runner and he did everything that was asked of him to make that happen."

Domanic has verbally committed to an athletic scholarship at the University of Mississippi beginning 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.

Domanic joins Gatorade Texas Boys Cross Country Runners of the Year Craig Nowak (2011-12, Cypress Woods High School), Craig Lutz (2010-11 & 2009-10, Marcus High School), Reed Connor (2008-09, The Woodlands), and Colby Lowe (2007-08, Southlake Carroll) 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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