

Contact: Matt Schiffman (312-729-3672)

**OYSTER RIVER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 8, 2014) — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Maegan Doody of Oyster River High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year. Doody is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Oyster River 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 Doody as New Hampshire'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, Doody 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.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-6 sophomore distance runner won New Hampshire's Meet of Champions with a time of 18:12 this past season. The Runner of the Year as named by the New Hampshire Cross Country Coaches Association, Doody captured 11th place at the New England Cross Country Championships in 18:18.2. She also placed third at the Division 2 championships in 18:32.

Doody has maintained a 3.92 GPA in the classroom. A member of her school's student senate, she participates in local peer-leadership and community service initiatives in association with the varsity athletics program.

"I think what distinguishes Maegan is her consistency and reliability," said Oyster River head coach Fergus Cullen. "It is not unusual for even very good distance runners to have off days and off races, but that did not happen with her this season. She handles pressure very well, is a fierce competitor, and shows great patience and discipline in how she trains and how she races."

Morley will begin her 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. 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.

Doody joins Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Cross Country Runners of the Year Elizabeth Conway (2012-13, Central High School), Courtney Hawkins (2011-12, Milford High School), Chloe Maleski (2010-11, Keene High School), Heidi Caldwell (2009-10 & 2008-09, Hanover), and Georgia Griffin (2007-08, Hanover) 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.

###