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**STOCKDALE HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE CALIFORNIA BOYS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 16, 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 Blake Haney of Stockdale High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade California Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year. Haney is the first Gatorade California Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Stockdale 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 Haney as California'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, Haney 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, 132-pound senior raced to second place nationally this past season with a time of 15:09 at the Nike Cross Nationals Final. Haney finished third at the Div. 1 state meet in 15:09, and earned victories at the Clovis Invitational, the Woodbridge Classic, the Stanford Invitational, the Central Section Championships and the Kern County Championships.

Haney has maintained a 3.60 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the American Red Cross and served as a junior high tutor.

"Blake's work ethic is tremendous, and he is a true student of the sport," said Joshua Lewis, Stockdale head coach. "He's the epitome of the hard-working elite athlete, but he routinely seeks to make his teammates better."

Haney has verbally committed to an athletic scholarship at the University of Oregon 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.

Haney joins Gatorade California Boys Cross Country Runners of the Year Bryan Fernandez (2012-13, Dos Pueblos High School), Darren Fahy (2011-12, La Costa Canyon High School), Ammar Moussa (2010-11 & 2009-10, Arcadia High School), Chris Schwartz (2008-09, Foothill), and German Fernandez (2007-08, Riverbank) 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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