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**SALESIANUM SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE DELAWARE BOYS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 16, 2014) — In its 29<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 Patrick Hally of Salesianum School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Delaware Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year. Hally is the first Gatorade Delaware Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Salesianum 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 Hally as Delaware'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, Hally 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 senior distance runner raced to a second consecutive Division I individual state championship with a time of 15:41.46 this past season, leading the Sallies to the state title as a team. Also the Runner of the Year as named by the New Castle County Coaches Cross Country and Track Association, Hally won the New Castle County Championships in 15:32.35.

Hally has maintained a 4.04 weighted GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society as well as the student council, the Ultimate Frisbee club and the LifeSmarts club, he has donated his time at a homeless shelter, as a youth soccer instructor, at Saint John The Beloved's annual carnival and as secretary of Rotary International's service club. Hally has also volunteered on behalf of the Adopt-a-Highway program, Stockings for Soldiers, Claymont Community Center, Breakfast with Santa and Operation Welcome Home.

"Patrick has tremendous focus," said Salesianum head coach Michael Lo Sapio. "He understands exactly what it takes to be the best in the state and is not afraid to go after those goals. He is a fierce competitor who does not like to lose."

Hally will attend the University of Pennsylvania this fall, where he will continue his running career.

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.

Hally joins Gatorade Delaware Boys Cross Country Runners of the Year John Mascioli (2012-13, Archmere Academy), Sam Parsons (2011-12, The Tatnall School), Sebastian Oja (2010-11, Archmere Academy), Ryan Lee (2009-10, Archmere Academy), Greg Morrin (2008-09, Saint Mark's), and George Vernon (2007-08, Concord) 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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