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**NORTHFIELD MOUNT HERMON SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE MASSACHUSETTS 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 Mohamed Hussein of Northfield Mount Hermon School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year. Hussein is the first Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Northfield Mount Hermon 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 Hussein as Massachusetts'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, Hussein 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-6, 130-pound senior raced the New England Preparatory School Track Association Division I individual championship this past season with a time of 16:06. A First Team All-NEPSTA selection, Hussein earned 14th place at the Foot Locker Northeast Regional championships, crossing the line in 16:01.1.

Hussein has maintained a 3.67 GPA in the classroom. A member of his school's Debate Team, Business Club and Model Senate, he has volunteered locally on behalf of a food bank and as a peer tutor.

"Mohamed Hussein has quickly become a leader in our school as well as a top runner," said Northfield Mount Hermon head coach Grant Gonzalez. "He is sincerely beloved by his peers and is one of the kindest, most caring students I have had the privilege of knowing in my career."

Hussein will attend Amherst College this fall, where he will compete in cross country and track and field.

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.

Hussein joins Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Cross Country Runners of the Year Jonathan Green (2012-13, St. John's High School), Wesley Gallagher (2011-12, Pembroke High School), John Murray (2010-11, Shrewsbury High School), Patrick McGowan (2009-10, Mansfield), Mike Moverman (2008-09, Oliver Ames), and Robert Gibson (2007-08, Brookline) 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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