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**DAVIS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE CALIFORNIA GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 8, 2015) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Fiona O'Keeffe of Davis High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade California Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year. O'Keeffe is the first Gatorade California Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Davis 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 O'Keeffe as California'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, O'Keeffe 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-4 junior raced to the Division 1 individual state championship this past season with a time of 16:57. O'Keeffe also placed fourth at the Nike Cross Nationals Final in 17:31, and won the De La Salle Invitational, the Stanford Invitational, the Mt. SAC Invitational and the Sac-Joaquin Section Championships.

O'Keeffe has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of homeless shelters and native habitat restoration efforts.

"Fiona's running mechanics are amazing," said Davis head coach Bill Gregg. "Her running economy, coupled with her natural aerobic capacity, are an incredible combination. Bundle that with her mental makeup and you've got a special runner."

O'Keeffe will begin her senior 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.

O'Keeffe joins Gatorade California Girls Cross Country Runners of the Year Sarah Baxter (2013-14, 2012-13, 2011-12 & 2010-11, Simi Valley High School), Molly Grabill (2009-10, Rancho Bernardo), and Jordan Hasay (2008-09 & 2007-08, Mission College Prep.) 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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