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RIVER FALLS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE WISCONSIN 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 Annie Frisbie of River Falls High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year. Frisbie is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from River Falls 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 Frisbie as Wisconsin'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, Frisbie 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-3 senior raced to the Division 1 state championship this past season with a time of 17:59.2. A two-time First Team All-State selection, Frisbie was the fastest Wisconsin competitor at the Nike Cross Nationals Heartland Regional championships, crossing the line in 17:35.4 to take fourth. She went on to compete at the NXN Final, where she finished 20th in 18:10. Frisbie was also the Badger State's top performer at the Foot Locker Midwest Regional championships, where she finished seventh with a time of 17:41. Advancing to the national Foot Locker Cross Country Championships, she placed 13th in 18:07. Frisbie was one of only four girls prep runners to earn All-American status at both the Foot Locker and NXN national championship races this fall.

Frisbie has maintained a 3.57 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of Operation Christmas Child in association with Samaritan's Purse as well as Feed My Starving Children.

"Annie Frisbie is a hardworking and disciplined runner but what impresses me the most is her humility," said River Falls High head coach Pat Lorentz. "If you had to share a seat next to her on a plane flight, I doubt you would hear her mention running once. In addition to being humble, she is also a very caring and thoughtful teammate."

Frisbie has verbally committed to an athletic scholarship at Iowa State University 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.

Frisbie joins Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Cross Country Runners of the Year Elizabeth Flatley (2013-14, Brookfield Central High School), Andrea Ostenso (2012-13, Ladysmith High School), Molly Seidel (2011-12, University Lake School), Allison Woodward (2010-11, Notre Dame de la Baie Academy), Marya Haegler (2009-10, Winnebago Lutheran Academy), Morgan Sickels (2008-09, Catholic Memorial), and Ashley Beutler (2007-08, New Glarus) 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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