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

CHICAGO (January 15, 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 Austin Tamagno of Brea Olinda High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade California Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year. Tamagno is the first Gatorade California Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Brea Olinda 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 Tamagno 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, Tamagno 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-8, 133-pound junior raced to the Division 3 individual state championship this past season with a time of 15:09, leading the Wildcats to the state title as a team. Tamagno placed fifth at the national Foot Locker Cross Country Championships in 15:15, earning All-American status, and broke the course record at the Mt. SAC Invitational with a time of 14:23. He also broke the tape at the Woodbridge Classic, the South Section finals, the Orange County championships and the Crestview League championships.

Tamagno has maintained a 3.92 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of youth running programs.

"What sets Austin apart from other runners is his belief in doing the extraordinary," said Brea Olinda coach Jeremy Mattern. "He sets extremely high goals and shows no fear in pursuing them with a full heart. He pushes himself on the course and in the classroom."

Tamagno will begin his 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.

Tamagno joins Gatorade California Boys Cross Country Runners of the Year Blake Haney (2013-14, Stockdale High School), 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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