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**GEORGETOWN DAY SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 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 Tristan Colaizzi of Georgetown Day School as its 2014-15 Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year. Colaizzi is the first Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Georgetown Day 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 Colaizzi as District of Columbia'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, Colaizzi 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 6-foot-1, 145-pound junior raced to the Mid-Atlantic Conference championship this past season with a time of 16:34. Colaizzi also won the DCXC Invitational, finished third at the Maryland/D.C. Private School Championships and placed 32nd at the Nike Cross Nationals Southeast Regional championships.

Colaizzi has maintained an A average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as a youth swim instructor and participated in service-mission trips to Ethiopia and the Navajo Nation.

"Tristan continues to impress me with his resilience, consistency and fire," said Georgetown Day coach Anthony Belber. "He was diagnosed with walking pneumonia this fall, and being an asthma sufferer, his breathing became very compromised during races and hard workouts throughout the season. It was obvious that his labored breathing was holding him back, but it was also clear that he just loves the opportunity to compete and to push himself."

Colaizzi 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.

Colaizzi joins Gatorade District of Columbia Boys Cross Country Runners of the Year Tai Dinger (2013-14 & 2012-13, St. Albans School), Mike Crozier (2011-12, Gonzaga College High School), John McGowan (2010-11 & 2008-09, Sidwell Friends School), Tom Harrison (2009-10, St. Albans School), and Nick Bax (2007-08, St. Albans School) 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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