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**CENTRAL BUCKS EAST HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE PENNSYLVANIA BOYS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 15, 2015) — In its 30<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 Jake Brophy of Central Bucks East High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year. Brophy is the first Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Central Bucks East 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 Brophy as Pennsylvania'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, Brophy 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, 140-pound junior raced to the Class AAA individual state championship this past season with a course-record time of 15:24. Brophy also broke the tape at the Viking Invitational, the Central Bucks East Invitational, the District 1 championships and the Suburban One Continental Conference championships. He finished fifth at the Foot Locker Northeast Regional championships in 15:37.4 and placed 25th at the national Foot Locker Cross Country Championships.

Brophy has maintained a 4.14 GPA in the classroom. A member of his school's student council, he has volunteered locally on behalf of an animal shelter.

"Jake is a tremendous athlete, but also one of the most humble young men I've ever coached," said Central Bucks East coach Sam Losorelli. "He never misses practice and is always willing to sacrifice his personal needs in an effort to help others."

Brophy 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.

Brophy joins Gatorade Pennsylvania Boys Cross Country Runners of the Year Tony Russell (2013-14, Henderson High School), Brendan Shearn (2012-13, North Schuylkill High School), Dustin Wilson (2011-12, Chestnut Hill Academy), Zach Hedba (2010-11, North Hills Senior High School), Brad Miles (2009-10, North Penn), Ben Furcht (2008-09, Lower Merion), and Mark Dennin (2007-08, Boyertown Area Senior) 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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