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**OYSTER RIVER HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE NEW HAMPSHIRE GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 14, 2016) — In its 31st year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Maegan Doody of Oyster River High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year. Doody is the first Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Oyster River 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 Doody as New Hampshire'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, Doody 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 state's two-time returning Gatorade Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year, Doody won a third consecutive Meet of Champions with a time of 17:34 this past season. The 5-foot-3 senior distance runner also won a second straight Division 2 individual championship in 18:06. A two-time returning New Hampshire Cross Country Coaches Association and New Hampshire Union Leader Runner of the Year, Doody placed 28th at the Foot Locker Northeast Regional championships in 19:01.70. She finished unbeaten against New Hampshire competition in 2015.

Doody has maintained a 3.94 GPA in the classroom. She has donated her time as a member of Oyster River's student council and as a student representative on the school board.

"She is a runner I tell my girls to watch, because they will never see another one of her talent again," said Stan Lyford, head coach at rival Portsmouth High. "She is a once-in-a-coaching-career athlete."

Doody has signed a National Letter of Intent to run on an athletic scholarship at Georgetown 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.

Three-time winner Doody joins Gatorade New Hampshire Girls Cross Country Runners of the Year Elizabeth Conway (2012-13, Central High School), Courtney Hawkins (2011-12, Milford High School), Chloe Maleski (2010-11, Keene High School), Heidi Caldwell (2009-10 & 2008-09, Hanover High School) and Georgia Griffin (2007-08, Hanover High 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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