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**DAVIS HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE UTAH 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 Courtney Wayment of Davis High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Utah Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year. Wayment is the first Gatorade Utah Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Davis 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 Wayment as Utah'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, Wayment 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-7 senior raced to the Class 5A individual state championship this past season with a time of 17:24.7, leading the Darts to second place as a team. Wayment also won the Region 2 championship, the Bob Firman Invitational and the Murray Invitational. She finished 17th at the Nike Cross Nationals Final.

Wayment has maintained a 3.65 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of her church community, she has volunteered locally on behalf of youth sports programs and Boys & Girls Clubs of America.

"Courtney is an extremely hard working, committed, talented athlete," said Davis coach Corbin Talley. "She is also one of the toughest runners I have ever coached. She puts so much heart into her racing."

Wayment has signed a National Letter of Intent to run on an athletic scholarship at Brigham Young 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.

Wayment joins Gatorade Utah Girls Cross Country Runners of the Year Lucy Biles (2014-15, 2013-14 & 2012-13, Herriman High School), Kelsey Braithwaite (2011-12, Box Elder High School), Shea Martinez (2010-11, Davis High School), Gillian Gorelik (2009-10, Park City High School), Danielle Menlove (2008-09, Jordan High School), and Hailey Knettles (2007-08, Judge Memorial Catholic 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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