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**MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE WISCONSIN GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 14, 2016) — In its 31<sup>st</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Aubrey Roberts of Memorial High School as its 2015-16 Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year. Roberts is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Memorial 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 Roberts as Wisconsin'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, Roberts 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-2 senior raced to a Division 1 individual championship this past season with a time of 17:49.9, leading the Old Abes to a state title as a team. A four-time First Team All-State selection, Roberts took seventh at the Foot Locker Midwest Regional championships, crossing the line in 17:79. She was the only runner from her state to qualify for the national Foot Locker Cross Country Championships, where she finished 13th in 17:52.3. She was also the fastest Wisconsin competitor at the Nike Cross Nationals Heartland Regional championships, crossing the line in 12th place in 17:49.

Roberts has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. A member of the National Honor Society and the Key Club, she has volunteered locally on behalf of her church youth group.

"Aubrey Roberts is the complete package," said Eau Claire Memorial High head coach Mark Johnson. "She is an excellent teammate and fiercely competitive yet possesses great sportsmanship. She is at her best when her best is needed."

Roberts has signed a National Letter of Intent to run on an athletic scholarship at Northwestern 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.

Roberts joins Gatorade Wisconsin Girls Cross Country Runners of the Year Annie Frisbie (2014-15, River Falls High School), Elizabeth Flatley (2013-14, Brookfield Central High School), Andrea Ostenso (2012-13, Ladysmith High School), Molly Seidel (2011-12, University Lake School), Allison Woodward (2010-11, Notre Dame de la Baie Academy), Marya Haegler (2009-10, Winnebago Lutheran Academy), Morgan Sickels (2008-09, Catholic Memorial High School), and Ashley Beutler (2007-08, New Glarus 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](http://www.gatorade.com/poy).

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