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**GEORGETOWN DAY SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOYS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 22, 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 Tristan Colaizzi of Georgetown Day School as its 2015-16 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 senior raced to the D.C. State Athletic Association individual championship this past season with a meet-record time of 17:12. The district's returning Gatorade Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year, Colaizzi also won the Mid-Atlantic Conference championship. He placed second at the DCXC Invitational, third at the Maryland/D.C. Private School championships and 19th at the Foot Locker South Regional championships.

Colaizzi has maintained an A average in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of charity road races and participated in mission trips to Ethiopia and the Navajo Nation.

"Tristan is remarkably talented, but his success comes mostly from hard work, great instincts and a fiery, competitive drive to push himself," said Georgetown Day coach Anthony Belber. "His resilience has been even more impressive than his ability, and he's inspired so many of his teammates."

Colaizzi will attend Williams College this fall, where he will compete in cross country and track and field.

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.

Two-time winner 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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