

Contact: Kelsey Rhoney (312-729- 3685)

**HOMESTEAD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE WISCONSIN BOYS CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 12, 2018) — In its 33rd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Drew Bosley of Homestead High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year. Bosley is the first Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Cross Country Runner of the Year to be chosen from Homestead 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 field, distinguishes Bosley as Wisconsin'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, Bosley joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Lukas Verzbicas (2010-11, 2009-10 Carl Sandburg, Orland Park, Ill.), Megan Goethals (2009-10, Rochester, Rochester Hills, Mich.), Jordan Hasay (2008-09, Mission College Prep., San Luis Obispo, Calif.), Donn Cabral (2007-08, Glastonbury High School, Glastonbury, Conn.) and Chris Derrick (2007-08, Neuqua Valley, Naperville, Ill.).

The 6-foot, 147-pound junior earned All-American status at both the Foot Locker Cross Country Championships and the Nike Cross Nationals Final this past season, finishing seventh in both races. Bosley broke the tape at the NXN Heartland Regional championships and took 10th at the Foot Locker Midwest Regional championships. He also won the Division 1 state meet with a time of 15:39.9, breaking the tape 5.2 seconds ahead of his next-closest competitor.

Bosley has volunteered locally as a youth running coach. "Drew is a tremendous talent who has overcome some injury issues to rise to the level of elite runners," said Mike Heling, head coach of Kimberly High. "His growth over the last two years has been phenomenal to watch."

Bosley has maintained a weighted 3.60 GPA in the classroom. He 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 Player of the Year Selection Committee, 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.

Bosley joins Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Cross Country Runners of the Year Finn Gessner (2016-17 & 2015-16, La Follette High School), Olin Hacker (2014-15 & 2013-14, Madison West High School), Ryan Kromer (2012-13, Hudson High School), Chandler Diffie (2011-12, LaFollette High School), Dan Schubert (2010-11, Appleton East High School), Marcus Paulson (2009-10, Hamilton High School), Brett Kelly (2008-09, West High School), and Elliot Krause (2007-08, Appleton North High School) as athletes who have won the cross country award since its inception in 2007.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Bosley will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow the conversation on Twitter #GatoradePOY. 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 <http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com/>.

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