

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

CHICAGO (February 11, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced **Drew Bosley of Homestead High School** as its **2018-19 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 February, Bosley joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Lukas Verzbicas (2010-11, 2009-10 Carl Sandburg High School, Orland Park High School, Ill.), Donn Cabral (2007-08, Glastonbury High School, Glastonbury, Conn.) and Chris Derrick (2007-08, Neuqua Valley High School, Naperville, Ill.).

The state's returning Gatorade Runner of the Year, the 6-foot, 147-pound senior earned All-American status for a second straight year at the Foot Locker Cross Country Championships this past season, finishing fifth with a time of 15:25.4. Bosley also won the NXN Heartland Regional championships for a second straight season, then missed double All-American honors by two places and 0.9 seconds at the NXN Final, crossing the line 23rd in 15:22.9. He won the Division 1 state meet in 15:20.1, breaking the tape 10.8 seconds ahead of his next-closest competitor, and he was runner-up at the Foot Locker Midwest Regional Championships.

Bosley has volunteered locally as a youth running coach. "Drew's dedication to running is second to none," said Mike Miller, head coach of Whitefish Bay High. "Without a doubt, he is one of the best runners the state of Wisconsin has ever seen."

Bosley has maintained a weighted 3.43 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete in cross country and track and field on scholarship at Northern Arizona University 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. From the 12 national winners, one male and one female athlete are each named Gatorade High School Athlete of the Year. In all, 607 athletes are honored each year.

Two-time winner Bosley joins Gatorade Wisconsin Boys Cross Country Runners of the Finn Gessner (2016-17 & 2015-16, La Follette High School), and Olin Hacker (2014-15 & 2013-14, Madison West High School) as athletes who have won the cross country award since its inception in 2007.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Bosley has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.Gatorade.com/POY, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.

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