

**FISHERS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE INDIANA BOYS CROSS COUNTRY PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (February 13, 2025) — In its 40th year of honoring the nation's most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Sam Quagliaroli** of **Fishers High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Indiana Boys Cross Country Player of the Year**. Quagliaroli is the second Gatorade Indiana Boys Cross Country Player of the Year to be chosen from Fishers High School.

Gatorade Player of the Year is the top honor in high school sports, celebrating the nation's best high school athletes for their success on the field, in the classroom and in the community. The award distinguishes Quagliaroli as Indiana's best high school boys cross country athlete, and he joins an impressive group of alumni that spans CEOs, coaches and star athletes such as Lukas Verzbicas (2009-10 & 2010-11, Carl Sandburg High School, Illinois), Edward Cheserek (2012-13, St. Benedict's Preparatory School, New Jersey) and Daniel Simmons (2022-23 & 2023-24, American Fork High School, Utah).

The 5-foot-7, 133-pound senior defended his state title this past season, breaking the tape at the IHSAA Championships with a time of 14:46.90 and leading the Tigers to fifth place as a team. Ranked No. 8 in the national MileSplit 50 last fall, Quagliaroli earned First Team All-American honors by taking fourth at the national Foot Locker Cross Country Championships. He also crossed the line 22nd at the national NXN Final after finishing second at the NXN Midwest Regional, where he was First Team All-Region. A three-time All-State selection, he clocked a 5K personal best of 14:46.30 at sectionals last fall.

Quagliaroli has served as a nominated member of his school's Student Athlete Leadership Team and as a member of its Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter. He has participated in multiple community service initiatives as part of his church community, including as part of its youth group. He has also volunteered locally on behalf of a food pantry and as a youth coach at Camp IWannaRun. "Sam Quagliaroli turned in outstanding performances during his last four prep distance races after repeating as state champion, earning All-American or All-Region honors in three of those starts and missing All-American honors at the other by one place," said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack. "He was the class of Indiana in 2024."

Quagliaroli has maintained a weighted 4.61 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a written letter of athletic aid to run at the University of Indiana Bloomington this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states across 12 different high school sports - 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Quagliaroli joins recent Gatorade Indiana Boys Cross Country Players of the Year Cameron Todd (2023-24, Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School), Kole Mathison (2022-23 & 2021-22, Carmel High School) and Izaiah Steury (2020-21, Angola High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade's commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$5.6 million in grants to winners across more than 2,000 organizations.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com or follow us on social media on Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://www.instagram.com/Gatorade), Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY) and X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.

###