

**BROADWAY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE VIRGINIA 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 **Tristan Yoder** of **Broadway High School** is the **2024-25 Gatorade Virginia Boys Cross Country Player of the Year**. Yoder is the first Gatorade Virginia Boys Cross Country Player of the Year to be chosen from Broadway 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 Yoder as Virginia’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 6-foot, 145-pound senior won the VHSL Class 3 state meet this past season with a time of 15:34.0, crossing the finish 1.4 seconds ahead of his next-closest competitor and leading the Gobblers to the team title. A three-time All-State selection, Yoder finished 17th at the national Foot Locker Cross Country Championships last fall in 15:51.4. He clocked a 5K personal-best of 14:56.4 to take fourth at the VA XC Showcase.

A decorated member of his school’s DECA Club in addition to serving as part of the ACES civic engagement leadership club, Yoder has volunteered locally on behalf of Sources of Strength by advocating for mental health initiatives among his peer group. He has also donated his time as a concession stand worker for various sports programs and as a track counselor for the elementary and middle school programs. “Tristan Yoder rose to excellence at just the right time, catching fire at the state meet and beyond to pull away from rivals and emerge at the top of the heap,” said Rich Gonzalez of PrepCalTrack.

Yoder has maintained a 4.18 GPA in the classroom. He will attend Princeton University this fall, where he will compete in cross country and track.

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.

Yoder joins recent Gatorade Virginia Boys Cross Country Players of the Year Berkley Nance (2023-24, Mills E. Godwin High School), Conner Rutherford (2022-23, Blacksburg High School), Owen McArdle (2021-22, Yorktown High School) and Bryce Lentz (2020-21, Colgan 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.