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*America's longest-running program  
recognizing excellence in high school athletics*

**Belen Jesuit's Ruiz and Estero's Sommer  
Named Top Cross Country Coaches**

GAINESVILLE (Dec. 9) – Miami Belen Jesuit Prep's Frankie Ruiz and Estero's Jeff Sommer, whose teams repeated as state champions in 2011, have been selected as the Florida Dairy Farmers Boys' and Girls' Cross Country Coaches of the Year following a final round of voting by a statewide panel of cross country coaches.

Ruiz, whose team won this year's Class 3A state title, won the boys' coach award with 90 points over fellow finalists Rene Plasencia of Orlando Colonial, the 4A Coach of the Year, and 1A Coach of the Year Doug Butler of Melbourne Holy Trinity, who each finished with 26 points, and 2A Coach of the Year Don Kappelman of Ransom Everglades (18 points).

Sommer, the 3A Girls' Coach of the Year, finished with 62 points to win the overall award over Tampa Plant's Roy Harrison (51 points), the 4A Coach of the Year who also won a second straight state title; Class 1A Coach of the Year Jeannie Jackson of Jacksonville Providence (48 points); and Class 2A Coach of the Year David Alonso of Miami Carrollton (29 points).

The Florida Dairy Farmers Sports Awards program exemplifies Florida Dairy Farmers' commitment to the state's youth. This year represents the 20th anniversary of these unique awards, and we will be honoring the state's top athletes and coaches in an all-time high 30 sanctioned and recognized FHSAA sports. The program also emphasizes to young people the importance of keeping dairy products a primary part of their diet in their overall nutrition plan.