

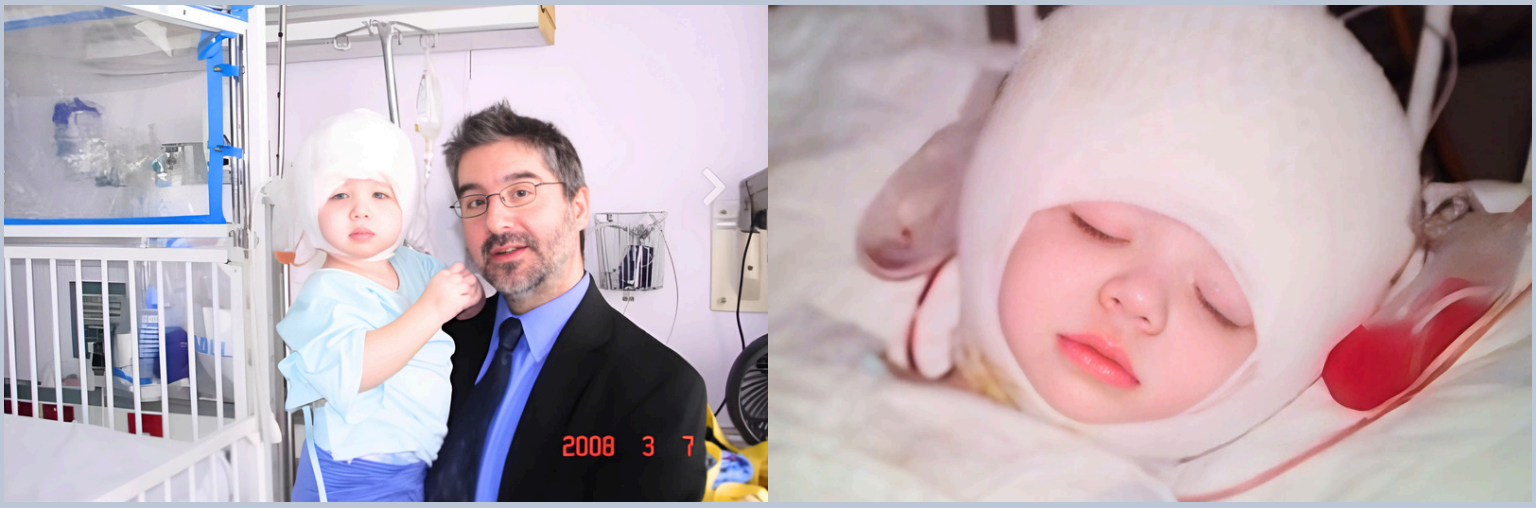


# Windsor High School Senior Named 2025 Michael H. Savage Spirit of Sport Award Honoree

January 3, 2025



Alex Inyatkin, a Windsor High School senior and member of the Windsor cross country, indoor track, and outdoor track teams, has been chosen as the 2025 Michael H. Savage Spirit of Sport Award honoree. He becomes the 16th recipient of the distinguished yearly award, and as Connecticut's honoree he will go forward as a nominee for the National Federation of State High School Associations' (NFHS) Section and National Spirit of Sport Awards. The Michael H. Savage Spirit of Sport Award seeks to recognize individuals who exemplify the ideals of the positive spirit of sport that represent the core mission of education-based athletics. The award may be given in recognition of a specific act or an activity of longer duration.



Diagnosed at six months old with Tuberous sclerosis, Alex was experiencing up to 80 seizures a day. To alleviate the seizures, he would undergo two brain surgeries at 18 months old. "When he was a baby and he had his surgery, we went into the surgery with the doctor saying he may come out not being able to move his arms or legs because they were so close to the motor strip," says Alex's mother Kerri Scott.

[View CIAC Video Feature Profile of Alex Inyatkin](#)

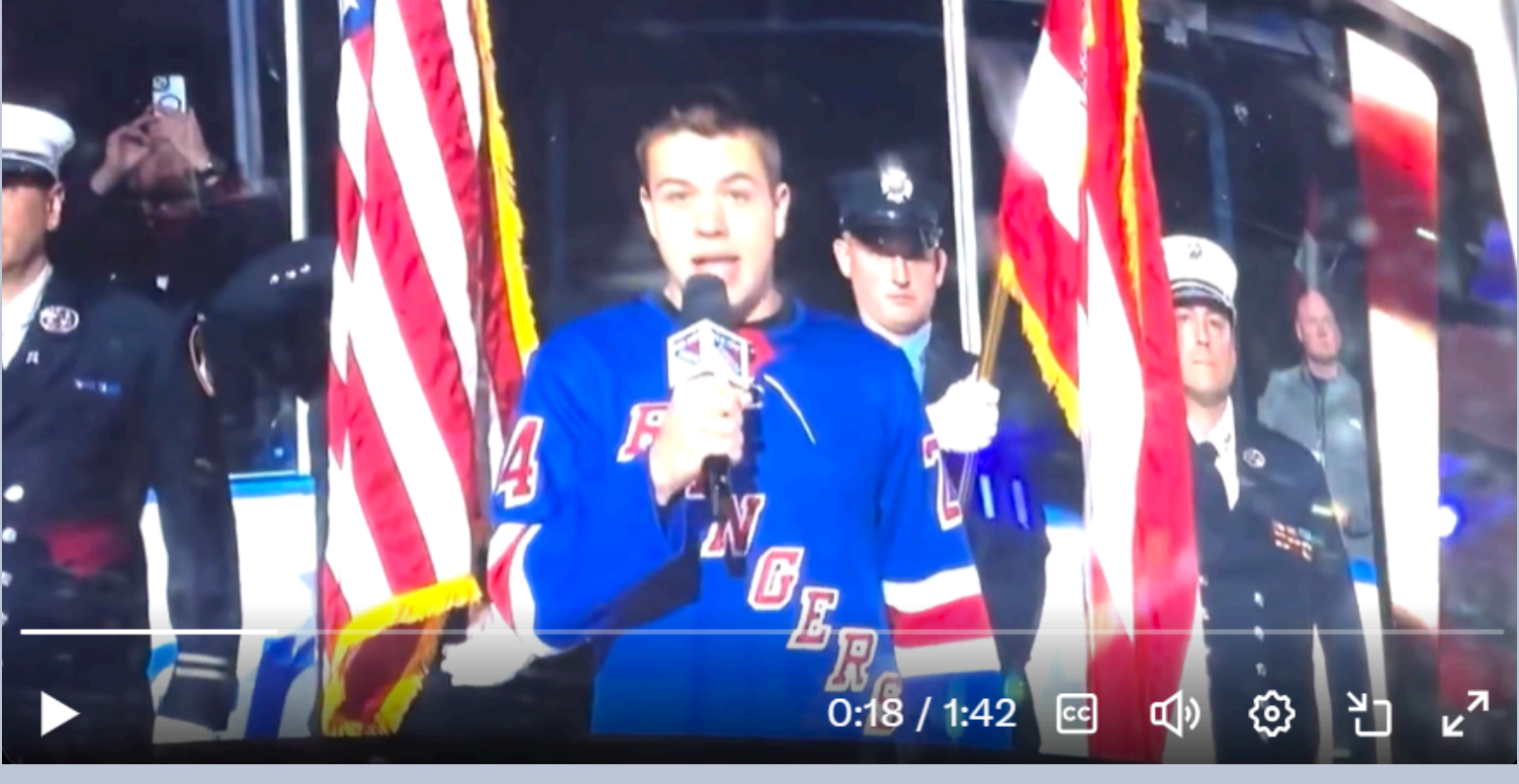
Alex has defied the odds to play high school sports. "He had never been a part of a team before because he can't get hit in the head. So running is all he can do," says Scott. In the fall of 2024 Alex's running had progressed to the point where he was a top seven runner for the Windsor High School boys cross country team and he competed with the varsity all season, including in the Class L State Championships. His mother shares that, "Alex has autism, so he is really good with numbers. He remembers the time for every single race he's ever run. He knows how much time he's taken off of each race, PRs – he has it all in his head."



Alex's father Ruslan Inyatkin, a former UConn Men's Basketball player, says, "He is on seizure medication twice a day. He has medicine he has to carry with him at all times. He's communicating well, his motor skills are great, and he's seizure free since his second surgery."

In addition to his athletic pursuits, Alex has gained notoriety for his musical talent. Described as a "musical savant", Alex has been invited by The Garden of Dreams Foundation to sing at both Radio City Music Hall and Madison Square Garden. In December of 2024 Alex sang the National Anthem at MSG before a New York Rangers NHL game.

[View Alex's Madison Square Garden Performance](#)



Windsor High School Assistant Cross Country Coach Nichole Donzella says, "What Alex has overcome physically, emotionally in some situations, cognitively, defies all barriers."

Inyatkin will be formally honored at the CAS-CIAC Annual Scholar-Athlete Banquet in May.