

**SCOUTS [AND OTHERS]
WITH BIG STORIES**

NAME: Matt Stout **BORN:** Sept. 19, 1995

HOMETOWN: Lilburn, Ga.

SCOUT RANK: Eagle Scout (Troop 504, Lilburn)

MADE HEADLINES: By winning a national orienteering championship in the M-18 Ultralong race at the 15th annual Flying Pig event in just his second year of competition. At 15, Matt could have competed in the M-16 class (ages 16 and under) but opted to move up a level.

THE SCOOP: Orienteering participants use compasses and maps to locate predetermined checkpoints along a race course. Matt got interested when he completed the Orienteering merit badge. He is developing a permanent orienteering course at BSA Camp Rainey Mountain and started a school orienteering club.

OTHER INTERESTS: Scuba diving, running

THE FUTURE: Matt's goal: the U.S. Junior Orienteering team and competing in international meets within two years

ADVICE: *"Once you've done the merit badge, go out and actually try it at the local level. Don't just take the merit badge as your full experience of an activity."*

ON THE WEB: boyslife.org/links/orienteeringusa

—Jennifer L.W. Fink

