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-16 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

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