SAINT FRANCIS SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE® HAWAII BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 15, 2019) — In its 34th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company today announced **Kameron Ng of Saint Francis School** as its **2018-19 Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Player of the Year**. Ng is the first Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Saint Francis School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Ng as Hawaii's best high school boys basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award to be announced in March, Ng joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph High School, N.J.), Dwight Howard (2003-04, Southwest Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln High School, Texas), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood High School, Calif.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington High School, Colo.) and Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame High School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-9, 165-pound senior guard led the Saints to a 22-17 record this past season. The state's returning Gatorade Boys Basketball Player of the Year, Ng averaged 24.4 points, four rebounds, three assists and two steals per game. A member of the Honolulu Star-Advertiser Fab 15, he was MVP of the Geremy Robinson Senior Classic, and earned Division 2 Player of the Year honors as a junior.

A devoted member of his church community, Ng has volunteered locally on behalf of food and clothing donation drives for the needy as well as youth basketball programs. "Kameron Ng is a terrific offensive player," said Larry Park, head coach at Kamehameha High School. "I think he's the best shooter in the state. Every time we missed a defensive assignment, he made us pay by making a three."

Ng has maintained a 3.39 GPA in the classroom. He remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school 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 work with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Two-time winner Ng joins Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Players of the Year Jessiya Villa (2016-17, Kahuku High School), Hugh Hogland (2015-16, 'Iolani School), and Kupa'a Harrison (2014-15, Kalaheo High School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a part of Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Ng also has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of his choosing. He is also eligible to submit an essay to win one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants for the organization of choice, which will be announced throughout the year.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit <u>www.Gatorade.com/POY</u>, on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY</u> or follow us on Twitter at <u>www.twitter.com/Gatorade</u>.

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