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Contact: Julie Mason (412-561-1014)

**MID-PACIFIC INSTITUTE STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® HAWAII BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 6, 2010) — In its 25th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Cody Sullivan of Mid-Pacific Institute as its 2009-10 Gatorade Hawaii Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Sullivan is the first Gatorade Hawaii Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Mid-Pacific Institute.

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 Sullivan as Hawaii's best high school boys soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Sullivan joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Kevin Garnett (1992-93, Maudlin HS, S.C.), Tony Meola (1986-87, Kearney HS, N.J.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-10, 150-pound senior forward led the Owls (12-3) to the Division II state championship this past season, recording 15 goals. The state Player of the Year as named by the *Honolulu Advertiser* and *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, Sullivan was the Co-Offensive Most Valuable Player of the Independent League of Honolulu, leading Mid-Pac to its first-ever ILH regular-season title. A two-time Division II All-Tournament Team selection, Sullivan concluded his varsity career with 39 goals.

Sullivan has maintained a 3.19 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach and as part of the Nature Club at Mid-Pac, cleaning up area beaches.

"Cody Sullivan has done so much in soccer and not only in high school, where Mid-Pac had never done well in the state tournament at all," said Phil Neddo, the director of coaching for the Honolulu Bulls club program. "Mid-Pac won the ILH regular-season title. He was the main factor in making that happen."

Sullivan will attend the Air Force Academy this fall, where he will play soccer.

The Gatorade Player of the Year 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 ESPN RISE and the Gatorade high school sports leadership team, 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.

Sullivan joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Boys Soccer Players of the Year Nick Goo (2008-09, Iolani School), Zane Dydasco (2007-08, Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama), and Kekoa Osorio (2006-07, Kamehameha Schools, Kapalama Campus) among the state's list of former award winners.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. For more on the Gatorade Player of the Year program, including nomination information, a complete list of past winners, and the announcement of the Gatorade National Player of the Year, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com.

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