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CAMPBELL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® HAWAII SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 9, 2010) — In its 25th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Katie Manuma of Campbell High School as its 2009-10 Gatorade Hawaii Softball Player of the Year. Manuma is the furst Gatorade Hawaii Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Campbell High 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 Manuma as Hawaii's best high school softball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Softball Player of the Year award announced in June, Manuma joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Alicia Hollowell (2000-01, Fairfield HS, Calif.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.), Angela Tincher (2002-03, James River HS, Va.) and Kenzie Fowler (2006-07, Canyon del Oro HS, Ariz.).

The 5-foot-7 senior right-handed pitcher led the Sabers (18-1) to the first Division I state title in school history this past season, posting a 13-1 record with a 0.68 ERA and 93 strikeouts in 93 innings while batting .490 with six home runs and 22 RBI. A two-time First Team All-Tournament selection, Manuma was named Most Outstanding Player of the 2010 Division I state tournament where she went 4-0 with a 0.24 ERA in 29 innings.

Manuma has maintained a 3.12 unweighted GPA in the classroom. She is an active member of her church community and has volunteered locally on behalf of beach clean-up initiatives.

"Katie Manuma is the best player on that team and she was definitely the one who stood out in the state tournament," said Rose Antonio, head coach of rival Mililani High. "The level of maturity that she brings to that team on and off the field really played a role in her success."

Manuma has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at Brigham Young University this fall.

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.

Manuma joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Softball Players of the Year Brittney Guro (2008-09, Iolani School), Amber Waracka (2007-08, Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama) and Nicole Alconcel (2006-07, Baldwin) 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.