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**Contact: Julie Mason (412-561-1014)**

**KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS-KAPALAMA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED  
GATORADE® HAWAII BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 17, 2011) — In its 26<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Micah Christenson of Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Christenson is the third Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama 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 court, distinguishes Christenson 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, Christenson joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Dwight Howard (2003-04, SW Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington HS, Colo.), Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame HS, Calif.), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood HS, Calif.) and Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln HS, Texas).

The state's returning Gatorade Boys Basketball Player of the Year, Christenson led the Warriors to a 24-7 record and the Division I state championship this past season. The 6-foot-5, 170-pound senior swingman averaged 21.1 points, 12.3 rebounds, 3.0 assists, 3.0 steals and 1.7 blocks per game. Also the state's returning Co-Player of the Year as named by the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*, Christenson shot 51.1 percent from the field, 44.5 percent from 3-point range and 74.0 percent from the free-throw line. He produced 16.4 points, 7.3 rebounds, 2.9 steals, 2.2 assists and 1.7 blocks per contest as a junior, leading Kamehameha High to the Division I state title as a sophomore in 2009.

Also a standout volleyball player, Christenson has maintained a 3.50 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth basketball instructor, he has volunteered locally by visiting ailing children at a hospital and fundraising on behalf of the United Cerebral Palsy Association.

"Of course I'm partial, but I believe he's one of the best local athletes ever to come out of Hawaii—hands down," said Kamehameha High Head Coach Jesse Nakanishi. "He had another great season. He averaged a double-double and gave us everything else, like diving on the floor for loose balls. He's a leader and a competitor. Every day, he did something that amazed me. He's a special, special player. His drive made everybody around him better."

Christenson has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on scholarship at the University of Southern California 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.

Two-time winner Christenson joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Players of the Year Pi'i Minns (2008-09, Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama) and Kameron Steinhoff (2007-08, Punahou School), 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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