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KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS-KAPALAMA HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE HAWAII GIRLS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 12, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Caprice Dydasco of Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama High School as its 2010-11 Gatorade Hawaii Girls Soccer Player of the Year. Dydasco is the fourth Gatorade Hawaii Girls Soccer 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 field, distinguishes Dydasco as Hawaii's best high school girls soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Dydasco joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, East Brunswick HS, N.J.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-4 senior forward recorded 15 goals and 11 assists this past season, leading the Warriors (14-2-1) to the Division I state semifinals. A member of the U.S. Soccer Federation Under-18 Women's National Team, Dydasco was the 2011 Interscholastic League of Hawaii co-Offensive Player of the Year and a 2010 Youth All-American selection by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

Dydasco has maintained a B average in the classroom. She has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach, at the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Hawaii and as part of multiple community-service initiatives in association with her church youth group.

"Caprice is just a tremendous player," said Scott Keopuhiwa, an assistant coach with Kamehameha School. "She has a great nose for the goal. She's very technical and has the ability to break a team down. She's able to go at defenses to beat players and create scoring opportunities for herself and her team."

Dydasco has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on scholarship at UCLA 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.

Dydasco joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Girls Soccer Players of the Year Mari Miyashiro, (2009-10, Mililani), Jayann Gabrio (2008-09, Punahou School), and Tani Costa (2007-08, Kalani) 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.