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

CHICAGO (June 9, 2011) — In its 26th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPN RISE, today announced Keiki Carlos of Mid-Pacific Institute as its 2010-11 Gatorade Hawaii Softball Player of the Year. Carlos is the first Gatorade Softball 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 Carlos 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, Carlos 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-5 junior left-handed pitcher led the Owls (17-4) to the Division I state championship this past season. Carlos posted a 17-3 record along with a 1.11 ERA, 130 strikeouts and a 0.78 WHIP. She also batted .365 with three home runs and 19 RBIs. The 2011 Hawaii High School Athletic Association Division I State Tournament Most Valuable Player, Carlos was the winning pitcher in all three of Mid-Pac's state postseason tournament victories.

Carlos has maintained a 3.15 GPA in the classroom. A devoted parishioner of her church community, she is a member of the Spanish Club and has volunteered locally as a student ambassador on behalf of her school's Holomua Honor Society.

"Any success that we achieved this season was because Keiki Carlos was on the mound for us," said Mid-Pacific Institute Head Coach Willie Quinn. "The fact that our school's softball program did not experience any success until Carlos entered the program speaks for itself."

Carlos has verbally committed to play softball on scholarship at the University of Hawaii beginning in the fall of 2012.

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.

Carlos joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Softball Players of the Year Katie Manuma (2009-10, Campbell), Brittney Guro (2008-09, Iolani School) and Amber Waracka (2007-08, Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama), 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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