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

CHICAGO (June 6, 2012) — In its 27<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with ESPNHS, today announced Keiki Carlos of Mid-Pacific Institute as its 2011-12 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 senior right-handed pitcher led the Owls (17-2) to their second straight Division I state championship this past season. Carlos posted a 17-2 record in the circle along with a 1.11 ERA and 113 strikeouts in 114 innings-pitched. Also the 2010-11 Gatorade Hawaii Softball Player of the Year and a two-time Division I State Tournament Most Valuable Player, she batted .592 with 26 RBI and a .667 on-base percentage in 2012.

Carlos has maintained a 3.20 GPA in the classroom. A devoted parishioner in her church community, she has volunteered locally as a student ambassador on behalf of her school's Holomua Honor Society and is a member of her school's Spanish Club and Interact Club.

"Keiki Carlos has become synonymous with Mid-Pacific Institute softball," said Mid-Pacific Institute head coach Willie Quinn. "She is calm and collected even when facing adversity and she always seems to be able to find a way to get an out when the team needs it most."

Carlos has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on an athletic scholarship at the University of Hawaii 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 ESPNHS 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 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com).

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