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PUNAHOU SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® HAWAII VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (December 12, 2012) — In its 28th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Carly Kan of Punahou School as its 2012-13 Gatorade Hawaii Volleyball Player of the Year. Kan is the third Gatorade Hawaii Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Punahou 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 Kan as Hawaii's best high school volleyball player. Kan joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including USA Volleyball players Kim Glass (2001-02, Horseshoe HS, Penn.), Kim Willoughby (1998-99, 1999-00, Assumption HS, La.) and Ogonna Nnamani (1999-00, University HS, Ill).

The 5-foot-9 senior outside hitter led the Buff n' Blue to a 18-1 record and the Division I state title this past season. Kan recorded 138 kills, 132 digs, a .496 kill percentage and a .335 hitting percentage. The 2012 Division I State Tournament MVP, she was also selected as the 2012 Interscholastic League of Honolulu Player of the Year.

Kan has maintained a 3.72 GPA in the classroom. A devoted member of her church community, she has volunteered locally on behalf of a homeless shelter and as a youth volleyball coach.

"Carly Kan was an amazing player for Punahou this season," said Tommy Lake, head coach at Moanalua High. "We played against her in the quarterfinals and we had no answer for her. She really stepped up her play in the postseason when her team really needed her. There are no weaknesses in her game and I can't think of a more complete player."

Kan has signed a National Letter of Intent to play volleyball on an athletic scholarship at the University of Missouri beginning in the fall of 2013.

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 the Gatorade high school sports leadership team in partnership with USA TODAY High School Sports, 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.

Kan joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Volleyball Players of the Year Tayler Higgins (2011-12, Punahou School), Misty Ma'a (2010-11, Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama HS), Sarah Palmer (2009-10 & 2008-09, Hawaii Baptist Academy), and Kanani Herring (2007-08, Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama HS) 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.