Contact: Ashley Ginascol (312-729-3622)

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

CHICAGO (May 28, 2013) — 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 Trey Saito of Mid-Pacific Institute as its 2012-13 Gatorade Hawaii Baseball Player of the Year. Saito is the seventh Gatorade Hawaii Baseball 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 Saito as Hawaii's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award announced in May, Saito joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Roy Halladay (1994-95, Arvada West HS, Colo.), David Price (2003-04, Blackman HS, Tenn.), Chipper Jones (1989-90, Bolles School, Fla.), Derrek Lee (1992-93, El Camino HS, Calif.) and John Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Prep, Wash.).

The 5-foot-8, 145-pound senior right-handed pitcher led the Owls (17-3) to the Division I state championship this past season. Saito posted a 7-0 record, a 0.41 ERA, threw three complete game shutouts and produced a WHIP of 0.88. The 2013 State Tournament Most Outstanding Player, he pitched 14 innings while allowing just two runs to win both of his postseason starts this season.

Saito has maintained a 3.09 GPA in the classroom. He has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and as a motivational speaker at an elementary school in addition to participating in multiple community clean-up initiatives.

"Trey Saito was such a consistent presence all season long," said George Gusman, head coach at Saint Louis High. "He pitched twice in the state tournament, including the championship game, and he finished the season undefeated. That in itself was quite an accomplishment. He knows how to mix speeds and make himself a very good pitcher."

Saito will attend California Lutheran University where he will play baseball this fall.

The <u>Gatorade Player of the Year</u> 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 <u>USA TODAY High School Sports</u>, 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.

Saito joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Baseball Players of the Year Travis Garcia-Perreira (2011-12, Mid-Pacific Institute), Kalei Contrades (2010 – 11, Saint Louis School), Michael Suiter (2009-10, Punahou School), Breland Almadova (2008-09 Iolani School), Aaron Fukiji (2007-08, Mid-Pacific Institute), and Harrison Ishida (2006-2007, 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 <u>www.gatorade.com/poy</u>.