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IOLANI SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® HAWAII BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (March 21, 2014) — In its 29th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Ikaika Phillip of Iolani School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Phillip is the sixth Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Iolani 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 court, distinguishes Phillip as Hawaii's best high school boys basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Basketball Player of the Year award to be announced in March, Phillip joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Dwight Howard (2003-04, SW Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington HS, Colo.), Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame HS, Calif.), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood HS, Calif.) and Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln HS, Texas).

The 6-foot-1, 190-pound senior wing led the Raiders to a 13-3 record and the Division I state championship this past season. The Interscholastic League of Honolulu Co-Player of the Year, Phillip averaged 14.6 points and 5.9 rebounds per game. He collected 15 points and eight rebounds in a 43-40 victory against Farrington in the title game, capturing state tournament Most Outstanding Player honors.

Phillip has maintained a 3.83 GPA in the classroom. In addition to donating his time as a youth basketball instructor, he has volunteered as part of community restoration efforts at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery, Kawawai Lo'i Gardens and Kawainui Marsh.

"Ikaika demonstrated poise and leadership throughout the season," said Keith Spencer, head coach of rival Saint Louis High. "You never saw him act out in a way that would demean his teammates, coaches and Iolani High School. He appeared very positive towards his teammates and confident about his basketball skills. He exemplified the true meaning of a student-athlete."

Phillip remains undecided upon a collegiate destination.

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.

Phillip joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Players of the Year Joshua Ko (2012-13, Kalaheo High School), DeForest Buckner (2011-12, Punahou School), Micah Christenson (2010-11 & 2009-10, Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama High School), Pi'i Minns (2008-09, Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama High School), Kameron Steinhoff (2007-08, Punahou School), and Spencer McLachlin (2006-07, 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 www.gatorade.com/poy.