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## IOLANI SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE HAWAII BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 13, 2014) — In its 29<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced KJ Ahlo of Iolani School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Hawaii Boys Soccer Player of the Year. Ahlo is the tenth Gatorade Hawaii Boys Soccer 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 field, distinguishes Ahlo as Hawaii's best high school boys soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Ahlo joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Abby Wambach (1997-98, Our Lady of Mercy, N.Y.), Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo HS, Mich.), Candace Parker (2001-02, Naperville Central HS, Ill.), Alexi Lalas (1987-88, Cranbrook HS, Mich.), Heather O'Reilly (2001-02, East Brunswick HS, N.J.) and Mark Sanchez (2004-05, Mission Viejo HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-4, 130-pound senior midfielder led the Raiders to an 18-1-1 record and the Division I state championship this past season. Ahlo scored 13 goals and passed for eight assists. The Interscholastic League of Hawaii Offensive Player of the Year, he is a two-time First Team All-State selection and a 2014 Division I State Tournament First Team honoree.

Ahlo has maintained a 3.26 GPA in the classroom. A member of 'Iolani's Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter, he has volunteered locally as a youth soccer coach.

"KJ Ahlo is a very creative and dynamic player with the ball," said Jayson Abe, head coach of Mid-Pacific Institute. "He finds ways to make big plays."

Ahlo has signed a National Letter of Intent to play soccer on an athletic scholarship at the University of San Francisco 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.

Ahlo joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Boys Soccer Players of the Year Leo Klink (2012-13 & 2011-12, Kalani High School), Scott Granger (2010 – 11, Punahou School), Cody Sullivan (2009-10, Mid-Pacific Institute), Nick Goo (2008-09 Iolani School), Zane Dydasco (2007-08, Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama), and Kekoa Osorio (2006-2007, Kamehameha Schools, Kapalama Campus) 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>.