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## MILILANI HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED GATORADE® HAWAII SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 5, 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 Aubree Kim of Mililani High School as its 2013-14 Gatorade Hawaii Softball Player of the Year. Kim is the first Gatorade Hawaii Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Mililani High 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 Kim 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, Kim 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 sophomore right-handed pitcher led the Trojans (15-3) to the Division I state championship this past season. Kim posted a 14-1 record with a 1.12 ERA and 143 strikeouts in 81 innings pitched. The Hawaii High School Athletic Association Division I State Tournament Most Outstanding Player, she won all three of her postseason starts, striking out 28 batters in 21 innings.

Kim has maintained a 4.0 GPA in the classroom. She has volunteered locally on behalf of the Girl Scouts of the USA and as a youth softball coach.

"Aubree Kim is a throwback to the way sports should be played," said Mililani High head coach Rose Antonio. "Most coaches and fans would be proud of her individual accomplishments, but Aubree brings humility and a willingness to place her team, her family and community above her individual achievements."

Kim will begin her junior year of high school 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.

Kim joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Softball Players of the Year Jaci Young (2012-13, Punahou School), Keiki Carlos (2011-12 & 2010-11, Mid-Pacific Institute), Katie Manuma (2009-10, Campbell), Brittney Guro (2008-09, Iolani School), Amber Waracka (2007-08, Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama), and Nicole Alconcel (2006-07, Baldwin) 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>.