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**KALAHEO HIGH SCHOOL STANDOUT NAMED
GATORADE® HAWAII BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 20, 2015) — In its 30th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, in collaboration with USA TODAY High School Sports, today announced Kupa'a Harrison of Kalaheo High School as its 2014-15 Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Harrison is the first Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Kalaheo 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 court, distinguishes Harrison 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, Harrison 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-5, 175-pound senior wing led the Mustangs to a 31-3 record and the Division I state championship this past season. A returning Second Team All-Hawaii selection as named by SocringLive.com, Harrison averaged 13.8 points, 8.1 rebounds, 5.0 assists, 2.8 steals and 1.5 blocks per game. In four Division I state tournament games, he collected 12.8 points, 9.0 rebounds, 3.5 steals and 2.3 assists per contest, capturing All-Tournament Team honors.

Harrison has maintained a 3.43 GPA in the classroom and represents one of the state's top academic candidates in meeting the Gatorade Award's broad criteria. In addition to volunteering to preserve historic landmarks in Kailua, he has donated his time on behalf of his church's congregation.

"Harrison can play any position one through five," said Alan Akina, head coach of rival Kahuku High. "That's what made him valuable. Harrison can rebound, guard your biggest guy, bring the ball up and shoot. He had to do it all against us. He's got big upside potential with college."

Harrison 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.

Harrison joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Players of the Year Ikaika Phillip (2013-14, Iolani School), 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.

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