

**Contact: Kelsey Rhoney (312-729- 3685)**

**SAINT FRANCIS SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE® HAWAII BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 8, 2018) — In its 33<sup>rd</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Kameron Ng of Saint Francis School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Player of the Year. Ng is the first Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Saint Francis 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 Ng 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, Ng joins an elite alumni association of past state boys basketball award winners, including Karl-Anthony Towns (2012-13 & 2013-14, St. Joseph HS, N.J.), Dwight Howard (2003-04, SW Atlanta Christian Academy, Ga.), Chris Bosh (2001-02, Lincoln HS, Texas), Paul Pierce (1994-95, Inglewood HS, Calif.), Chauncey Billups (1993-94 & 1994-95, George Washington HS, Colo.) and Jason Kidd (1991-92, St. Joseph Notre Dame HS, Calif.).

The 5-foot-9, 150-pound junior guard led the Saints to a 29-3 record and their second consecutive Division 2 state championship this past season. Ng averaged 25.5 points, 3.6 assists, 3.3 steals and 3.1 rebounds per game. The Div. 2 Player of the Year and the Interscholastic League of Honolulu MVP, he is also a two-time Most Outstanding Player in the Div. 2 state tournament.

A devoted member of his church community and a tutor for younger students, Ng has volunteered locally on behalf of food and clothing donation drives and youth basketball programs. "Kameron Ng is one of the highest IQ basketball players I've seen in recent years," said Duane Omori, head coach at McKinley High. "Offensively, he has so many weapons—3-pointers, pull-up mid-range jumpers, finishing at the basket, and he's an excellent free throw shooter. What sets him apart is how he sets up his teammates and maximizes their strengths."

Ng has maintained a 3.38 GPA in the classroom. He will begin his senior year of high school this fall.

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 Player of the Year Selection Committee, 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.

Ng joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Boys Basketball Players of the Year Jessiya Villa (2016-17, Kahuku High School), Hugh Hogland (2015-16, 'Iolani School), Kupa'a Harrison (2014-15, Kalaheo High School), 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.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Kameron will be able to select a national or local youth sports organization to receive a grant as part of the Gatorade Play It Forward program. Every Gatorade Player of the Year state winner receives a \$1,000 grant to donate and will have the opportunity to enter for an additional \$10,000 spotlight grant by writing a brief essay explaining why their selected organization deserves additional support. 12 spotlight grants - one for each sport - will be announced throughout the year.

To keep up to date on the latest happenings, become a fan of Gatorade Player of the Year on Facebook and follow the conversation on Twitter #GatoradePOY. 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 <http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com/>.