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Contact: Kelsey Rhoney (312-729-3685)

KAILUA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE HAWAII BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 29, 2018) — In its 33rd year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, The Gatorade Company, today announced Stone Parker of Kailua High School as its 2017-18 Gatorade Hawaii Baseball Player of the Year. Parker is the first Gatorade Hawaii Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Kailua 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 Parker as Hawaii's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year, Parker joins an elite alumni association of past state award-winners in 12 sports, including Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo High School, Mich.), Jon Lester (2001-02, Bellarmine Preparatory School, Wash.), David Price (2003-04, Blackman High School, Tenn.), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas), Rick Porcello (2006-2007, Seaton Hall Preparatory School, N.J.) and Kris Bryant (2009-10, Bonanza High School, Nev.).

The 6-foot-4, 200-pound senior right-handed pitcher and first baseman posted a 6-1 record with a 0.69 earned run average this past season, leading the Surfriders (14-5) to the Division I state semifinals. Parker struck out 66 batters while allowing just 24 hits and 12 walks in 51 innings pitched. Offensively, Parker batted .289 with a home run, 10 RBI, five runs scored and two walks. A four-year varsity starter, Parker is ranked as Hawaii's No. 2 recruit in the Class of 2018 by Perfect Game.

An Air Force Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) member, Parker has also donated his time by helping youth baseball players at Hawaii Baseball Academy clinics.

"Every time I've seen Stone pitch, and I've seen him quite a bit, he's just got electric stuff.," said Kila Kaaihui, head coach at Kaiser High School. "As hard as he throws, he's got really good command. He's clearly the best pitcher in the state right now, and there's really not that much more to say. He's that much better than everybody."

Parker has maintained a B average in the classroom. He has signed a national letter of intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Kansas 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.

Parker joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Baseball Players of the Year Joey Cantillo (2016-17, Kailua High School), Alex Oley (2015-16, Mid-Pacific Institute), Noah Shackles (2014-15, Mid-Pacific Institute), Kodi Medeiros (2013-14, Waiakea High School), Trey Saito (2012-13, Mid-Pacific Institute), Travis Garcia-Perreira (2011-12, Mid-Pacific Institute), Kalei Contrades (2010-11, Saint Louis School), Michael Suiter (2009-10, Punahou School), Breland Almadova (2008-09, Iolani School), Aaron Fukiji (2007-08, Mid-Pacific Institute), and Harrison Ishida (2006-07, Punahou School) among the state's list of former award winners.

As a Gatorade Player of the Year, Stone 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/>.

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