CAMPBELL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE HAWAII FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (May 13, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Titus Mokiao-Atimalala of Campbell High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Hawaii Football Player of the Year. Mokiao-Atimalala is the first Gatorade Hawaii Football Player of the Year to be chosen from Campbell 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 Mokiao-Atimalala as Hawaii's best high school football player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Football Player of the Year award to be announced in May, Mokiao-Atimalala joins an elite group of past state football award-winners, including Emmitt Smith (1986-87, Escambia High School, Fla.), Matthew Stafford (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Christian McCaffrey (2012-13 & 2013-14, Valor Christian High School, Colo.).

The 6-foot-1, 180-pound senior wide receiver and defensive back finished his prep football career with 170 catches for 2,915 yards and 37 touchdowns in spite of losing his senior season to the pandemic. Mokiao-Atimalala caught 62 balls for 1,133 yards and 17 scores as a junior and also recorded 24 tackles and five interceptions on defense. He was the 2019 Oahu Interscholastic Association Open Division Offensive Player of the Year and a First Team All-State selection.

Mokiao-Atimalala has volunteered locally with the Message of Peace Ministry, and he has donated his time as a youth football coach and on behalf of multiple community service initiatives through his church. "Titus is an amazing player who runs excellent routes," said Sterling Carvalho, head coach of Kahuku High. "He catches the ball at the 'high point' and almost always wins the 50-50 balls. His speed and hands make him the best wide receiver in the state."

Mokiao-Atimalala has maintained a 3.23 GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play football on scholarship at the University of Central Florida 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 works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Mokiao-Atimalala joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Football Players of the Year Jayden deLaura (2019-20, Saint Louis School), Dillon Gabriel (2018-19, Mililani High School), Chevan Cordeiro (2017-18, Saint Louis School), and Tua Tagovailoa (2016-17, Saint Louis School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Mokiao-Atimalala has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Mokiao-Atimalala is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.