KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS-KAPALAMA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED GATORADE HAWAII GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

CHICAGO (June 28, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Tatum Moku** of **Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Hawaii Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Moku is the first Gatorade Hawaii Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama 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 Moku as Hawaii's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Moku joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Jasmine Moore (2018-19, Lake Ridge High School, Texas), Sydney McLaughlin (2016-17, 2015-16 & 2014-15, Union Catholic High School, N.J.), and Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt High School, Iowa).

The state's two-time returning Gatorade Girls Track & Field Player of the Year, the 5-foot-6 senior broke the state record in the pole vault this past season, clearing 13 feet, 7 inches, which matched the nation's No. 15 performance among girls prep competitors in 2023. Moku also won the event at the state meet and captured additional state titles in the 100-meter hurdles as well as the long jump. She took third in the 300-meter hurdles and fourth in the 100-meter dash, sparking the Warriors to a third-place finish as a team.

Moku has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and with youth track and gymnastics programs. She also contributed to community restoration and clean-up projects at significant Hawaiian cultural destinations. "Already the best pole vaulter in Hawaii prep history, Moku added another six inches to her personal-best clearance and continued to improve her horizontal jumping and hurdling," said Erik Boal, editor at DyeStat.com "Moku's ability to score in five events solidifies her status as one of the best all-around athletes ever to compete in the state."

Moku has maintained a 3.50 weighted GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to compete on scholarship at Washington State University 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 Player of the Year Selection Committee, which leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Three-time winner Moku joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Chenoa Frederick (2019-20 & 2018-19, Kamehameha Schools-Hawaii), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

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