



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **U.S. Under-19 lacrosse squad to play on Mercer Island June 29**

SEATTLE – The five-time world champion U.S. Under-19 men's lacrosse team will take on a squad of Northwest collegiate all-stars Sunday, June 29 at Mercer Island High School. The exhibition is one of only five tune-ups for the U.S. squad prior to competing at the International Lacrosse Federation (ILF) Under-19 World Games, July 3 – 12 in Coquitlam, British Columbia.

The local exhibition game, which gets underway at 3 p.m. at Islander Stadium, is preceded by a youth lacrosse clinic for 250 local 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders put on by U.S. players and coaches. The clinic gets underway at 12 noon.

General admission tickets are \$8 and available at the event. Tickets for the full day including the clinic and game, which includes a commemorative t-shirt, are \$15 in advance by June 24 or \$20 at the gate.

The U.S. team is made up of 23 of the top lacrosse players under 19-years-old. Players on the roster now represent 14 U.S. collegiate programs. The 2008 team was selected in 2007 from 120 invitees to the U-19 tryout camp.

Among the 20-member Northwest roster are six players that have helped their college team earn a berth in the NCAA tournament, an Ivy League Rookie of the Week selection, seven former High School All-Americans, 2005 Seattle Times Male High School Athlete of the Year and a US Lacrosse U-19 selection camp invitee.

The NW roster includes, Harvard's Sean Whitsitt, the 2005 Seattle Times Metro Male High School Athlete of the Year while playing for Lakeside, Ben York (Mercer Island, 2005) now playing at Bowdoin College, Drew Snider (Garfield, 2006), a two-time High School All-American who played on Maryland's 2008 NCAA tournament team, Bryan Gilbreath (Bainbridge Island, 2007) who earned High School All-American honors at Bainbridge and now playing at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Shane Moriarty (Garfield, 2005), who played for the University of Albany in the 2007 NCAA tournament, Chris Taylor (Mercer Island, 2005) a High School All-American who played on Georgetown's 2006 and 2007 NCAA tournament teams, Shane O'Neill (Seattle Prep, 2006) an Ivy League Rookie of the Week this season with Cornell and Greg Mahony (Mercer Island, 2007) a High School All-American who will enroll at Yale this fall. Mahony was one of 120 athletes from across the U.S. that were invited to try-out for the U-19 Team.

"The Washington Chapter of US Lacrosse is thrilled to host the Under-19 U.S. national team as they prepare to defend their world title," said Kris Snider, US Lacrosse Washington State Chapter Vice President and organizer of the exhibition visit. "The U.S. team is made up of the rising stars in lacrosse and our local all-star squad includes high school players from our area that have gone on to success at the top colleges across the country," he said. "This is a great opportunity to see local players compete at the highest level. I guarantee you will see 100 mph shots, amazing stick skills and spectacular saves."

The U.S. squad began its exhibition schedule June 8 with an 11 – 9 win over a Long Island (NY) all-star team in New York state. Other exhibition matchups include June 14 at Bridgewater, N.J., June 21 at Downingtown, Pa., June 22 at Bethesda, Md. and June 29 at Mercer Island High School.

The 2008 ILF Under-19 World Championship, which is played every four years, features teams from 12 countries. Participating nations include Australia, Canada, England, Iroquois, Japan, USA, Bermuda, Finland, Germany, Scotland , South Korea and Wales.

While in Seattle, U.S. players and coaches will be hosted in the housing, dining and athletic facilities at the University of Washington. On Saturday, June 28, U.S. players and coaches will volunteer their time rebuilding sections of the Swamp and Big Tree Trails near High Point on Tiger Mountain east of Issaquah as a part of the Mountains to Sound Greenway project.

For more information on U-19 exhibition or to register for the youth clinic, please visit [www.uslax-wa.org/U-19visit.html](http://www.uslax-wa.org/U-19visit.html) For more information on the ILF U-19 World Championships, please visit [www.2008worldlax.com](http://www.2008worldlax.com)

### **About High School Lacrosse in Washington State**

Over 2,100 high school students representing 71 boy's and 38 girl's teams play lacrosse in Washington state during a 10-week regular season March - May, with the Washington State High School Championships taking place in late May. Varsity boy's lacrosse is contested in the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association with 14 Division I and 24 Division II teams representing high schools throughout the Puget Sound area. Varsity girl's lacrosse is contested in the Washington Schoolgirls Lacrosse Association with 10 Varsity A and 14 Varsity B teams representing high schools throughout the Puget Sound area. Lacrosse is considered the fastest growing sport in the U.S. with the sport among the fastest growing in Washington state. For more information visit the Washington High School Boys Lacrosse Association at [www.WHSBLA.org](http://www.WHSBLA.org) and the Washington Schoolgirls Lacrosse Association at [www.WSLAX.org](http://www.WSLAX.org) .

### **Northwest Collegiate All-Stars**

#### **Washington**

James Anderson - Attack – Messiah College, Senior (Eastside Catholic, 2005)  
Ian Lee - Attack – Messiah College, Senior (Eastside Catholic, 2005)  
Dylan Masi - Attack - (Bainbridge Island, 2007)  
Andrew Parietti - Attack – Colgate, Junior (Seattle Prep, 2006)  
Greg Mahony - Midfield - Yale, Freshman (Mercer Island, 2007)  
Kevin Mahony - Midfield - (Mercer Island - 2006)  
Shane Moriarty - Midfield – Albany, Senior (Garfield, 2005)  
Shane O'Neill - Midfield - Cornell, Sophomore (Seattle Prep, 2006)  
Drew Snider - Midfield - Maryland, Sophomore (Garfield, 2006)  
Chris Taylor - Midfield - Georgetown, Senior (Mercer Island, 2005)  
Ben York - Midfield – Bowdoin College, Senior (Mercer Island, 2005)  
Adam Brazg - Defense - Bentley, Junior (Mercer Island, 2006)  
Bryan Gilbreath - Defense – U.S. Air Force Academy, Sophomore (Bainbridge Island, 2007)  
Taylor Platt - Defense – Univ. of Denver, Sophomore (Bellevue, 2007)  
Tyler Lee – Defense – Messiah College, Junior (Eastside Catholic, 2006)  
Sean Whitsitt - Defense – Harvard, Senior (Lakeside, 2005)  
Jason Montoya - Goal – Lafayette, Junior (Garfield, 2006)

#### **Oregon**

Addison Van Hatcher - Attack - Bentley College, Junior (Oregon Episcopal School, 2006)  
Alex Kaufman - Midfield – Wesleyan '08, (Oregon Episcopal School, 2004)  
Doug Logan - Defense - Bentley College, Senior (Oregon Episcopal School, 2005)

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