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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Correction

Washington Youth Soccer Players Selected for 2008 Regional and National Teams

FEDERAL WAY, WASHINGTON (Thursday, September 4) – Proving that once again Washington Youth Soccer has some of the nation’s most elite talent, a total of 25 local Olympic Development Players (ODP) were recently named to the US Youth Soccer Region IV player pools and National player pools.

Throughout the month of July, hundreds of the best players in Region IV converged on Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon and the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California for the 2008 Boys and Girls US Youth Soccer Region IV ODP camps (respectively). Under the guidance and teachings of the nation’s top coaches, several players from Washington Youth Soccer were among those invited to compete with and against other talented players from the fourteen western-most states. During the Regional ODP camps, coaches worked with the players in practice and game situations for several days. Players were evaluated for their skill on the pitch and their potential to play at the higher levels.

From this large pool of players, twelve girls and four boys from Washington Youth Soccer made a considerable impression and were selected to the US Youth Soccer Region IV ODP player pools. These include: Kathryn Bennett and Lucretia Lee (Girls ’91); Emi Lawson, Kellie Zakrzewski, Kim Cooper, Lily Hansen, and Lindsay Elston (Girls ’92); Madison Barney, Brooke Gilbert, Mikayla Anderson, and Caroline Brawner (Girls ’93); Kelly Beck (Girls ’94); Rebecca Schoales (Girls ’95); Darwin Jones and Andrew Weakley (Boys ’92); Rodney Greiling (Boys ’93); Jacob Beck (Boys ’94); Jesus Mendoza and Ryan Harber (Boys ’95).

Additionally, Isabel Farrell, Cassidy Nangle (Girls ’94); Michael Steele, Joe Mancini, Devonte Small, and Henry Wingo (Boys ’95) found extended success as they were all asked to represent Washington Youth Soccer as members of the US Youth Soccer National Team pools. Kathryn Bennett (Girls ’91) also proved to be a force on the pitch as she traveled with U-17 National Team for domestic and international competitions.

“Washington Youth Soccer has a distinguished history of developing elite talent through our state programs, primarily the Olympic Development Program,” stated Todd McGann, Washington Youth Soccer’s Executive Director/COO. “These players are a true reflection of the great accomplishments that all of our youth can achieve with dedication, hard work and support.

We are so proud of these young athletes and wish them the best as their careers continue to flourish.”

About Washington Youth Soccer

Washington Youth Soccer is the largest youth soccer organization in Washington. Washington Youth Soccer is the state's affiliate for US Youth Soccer, which is the largest sports organization in the United States and the most populous member of the United States Soccer Federation, the governing body for soccer in the United States. The Washington Youth Soccer is the sixth largest membership in the nation; our organization represents over 126,000 players (ages 4-19) and their families, 15,000 coaches on 12,000 teams and 6,500 referees in the state of Washington. Washington Youth Soccer’s mission is to foster the physical, mental and emotional growth and development of the State of Washington's youth through the sport of soccer at all levels of age and competition.

Information about Washington Youth Soccer and the Olympic Development Program (ODP) can be found at www.wsysa.com.

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