



## OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

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## Les Schwab Invitational presented by Express Employment Professionals Tips Off December 26<sup>th</sup>!!

**Portland, Oregon** – The Les Schwab Invitational presented by Express Employment Professionals– one of the most prolific holiday high school basketball tournaments in the country – returns to Liberty High School this December 26-30 for five days of entertaining basketball games and fun for the entire family. The 16<sup>th</sup> annual holiday basketball tournament will take place December 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> with the Express Employment Professionals' Slam Dunk Contest / 3 Pt. Shootout taking place on Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm.

The 2011 field features the top 5A and 6A basketball programs in Oregon, three nationally ranked teams, a 3-A powerhouse and future college and NBA stars including future Oregon Ducks and Oregon State Beavers. Oak Hill Academy will be making their fifth appearance in the LSI after losing their only game in tournament play to Westchester in the 2009 LSI Championship. Oak Hill is currently ranked #3 in ESPN's rankings and features a roster loaded with future college stars. Playing for Oak Hill will be Oregonian Jordan Tebbutt who led Horizon Christian to back-to-back 3A State Titles, but decided to transfer to Oak Hill Academy for his senior season. He will return to the LSI looking to become the first player in tournament history to be named to the All-Tournament team two years in a row on two different teams. Two teams making their first appearance in the tournament will be Yates High School from Houston, TX and Riverside Academy from New Orleans, LA. Yates will be bringing an exciting style of play to the tournament with an up-tempo style that allowed them to score a state of Texas record 170 points in a 32 minute game in 2010. Yates features a future Oregon Duck in Danyean Dotson – a versatile and athletic wing who recently committed to Dana Altman and the Ducks. Riverside Academy will also enter the LSI ranked in the top 25 by ESPN and will be led by 6-7 stud Ricardo Gathers. Gathers reopened his recruitment recently after originally committing to St. John's. Gathers, who is already built like an NFL linebacker, was the Gatorade Player of the Year in the state of Louisiana last year and will have college coaches from around the country traveling to Liberty this December to watch him play.

These schools should face tough competition from 13 of Oregon's top schools in 2011-12. Jesuit returns to the LSI after claiming their 3<sup>rd</sup> straight 6A OSAA State Championship along with reigning 5A Champion Corvallis Spartans. Westview will be a top team in the state this year and will feature 6-10 Landen Lucas who recently signed a letter of intent to attend Kansas University next year. Lake Oswego will be another top team this year along with 3A powerhouse Dayton who are making their second consecutive LSI appearance and will be led by future OSU Beaver Maika Ostling.

The LSI allows local basketball fans to see how well Oregon school's match-up against elite high school programs and players from all over the country as the tournament continually draws nationally ranked teams and high-caliber athletes to showcase their talent in Portland. The LSI is one of the most popular and well-attended high school basketball tournament's in the country. Tickets will be available for sale in advance at [www.LesSchwabInvitational.com](http://www.LesSchwabInvitational.com). The complete 16-team LSI field is listed below:

### **Out-of-State Teams:**

Oak Hill Academy, Mouth of Wilson, VA

Riverside Academy, New Orleans, LA

Yates High School, Houston, TX

### **Oregon Teams:**

Benson Techmen

Central Catholic Rams

Corvallis Spartans

David Douglas Scots

Dayton Pirates

Jefferson Democrats

Jesuit Crusaders

Lake Oswego Lakers

Lincoln Cardinals

North Salem Vikings

Southridge Skyhawks

Westview Wildcats

Wilsonville Wildcats

Fans are encouraged to visit [www.LesSchwabInvitational.com](http://www.LesSchwabInvitational.com) for additional event information or can follow the LSI on Twitter: [@LSInvitational](https://twitter.com/LSInvitational)

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The Les Schwab Invitational presented by Express Employment Professionals is marketed and managed by Prime Time Sports. Based in Portland, Oregon, Prime Time Sports is a premier sports and corporate event marketing company dedicated to creating elite events for athletes, participants, fans and sponsors.