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IBL NAMES 2009 ALL STARS

IBL TEAM BY TEAM END OF SEASON REVIEWS

The three-day IBL end of season tournament featured upsets (Snohomish over Edmonton, Oregon over Vancouver and LA over Bellingham) and nail-biter finishes (four games decided by less than a dozen points) all of which led to the LA Lightning and Oregon Waves winning the right to play for the overall IBL Championship, starting on Saturday July 25th—in what is now—a best-of-three series, the first time the IBL will use such a format (in Los Angeles). The following are the end of year reviews for all IBL teams covering their season, the playoffs—and finally—the **official 2009 IBL All Star selections**. Media note: all information including updated statistics per team (every single player) can be found on the IBL web site at www.iblhoopsonline.com.

Bellingham Slam (17-5) – 1st North Division - Longest Win Streak, Season = 6; Longest Loss Streak, Season = 1

The defending 2008 IBL Champions began the year with most of the core of that champagne popping bunch back to make a run at title number two, all except their leading scorer and floor general **Ryan Diggs (8G, 24.3pts, 6.3ast, 4.2rbd)** who was still playing in the NBA D-League playoffs with the Utah Flash. Still, the Slam played their usual high level of basketball under the guidance of Head Coach Rod Ridnour and was able to win the North Division crown and secure a first-round bye in the American Bracket of the IBL Playoff Tournament. Diggs—when he did return—immediately picked up where he left off averaging nearly 25 points a game in his late season return; however, Bellingham found a new leader early in the season- in **Tyler Amaya (19G, 23.4pts, 11rbd)** who put up terrific numbers, finishing in the top 10 in both scoring and rebounding. Bellingham also leaned on—soon to be two-time All-Star **Jacob Stevenson (21G, 20.9pts, 6.6rbs)** who upped his scoring average to better than 20 a night. Newcomer **Ira Graham (22G, 18.5pts, 5.4ast)** also arrived to fill the point guard role and kept the explosive Slam running as he added nearly 20 points per game to go with 6.5 assists—good for 7th in the league. The Champs returned to Monroe, WA looking to repeat their title run from last season and after a hard fought win against the Tacoma Tide (116-111) they were eliminated by the Los Angeles Lightning in the American Bracket final by a score of 132-121. For all of the Slam players' final statistics (or for any team) and as well—for game results from the 2009 season, visit the Slam team page on the IBL web site. **2009 All-Stars: Ryan Diggs, Tyler Amaya, Jacob Stevenson, Ira Graham**

Central Oregon Hotshots (6-14) – 3rd South Division – Longest Win Streak, Season = 2; Longest Loss Streak, Season = 5

One of the league's original teams returned in 2009 looking for a plus .500 campaign for the first time since the IBL's inaugural season of 2005, despite a tradition of featuring some of the league's top players including former All-Stars like Terry Horton and Paul Hafford. This would be much of the same as the team dropped several close games along the way to grabbing the final playoff spot. There were however some superb performances from the Hotshots, highlighted by the season of **Damian Browne (20G, 14.3pts, 14.6rbd)** who played far bigger than his 6'5" listing and finished tied for first in the league in rebounding. The point guard position was manned by **Travis Noble (20G, 18.4pts, 4.5ast)** who also put in an All-Star effort. Central Oregon received a late boost of scoring from **Riley Luettgerodt (10G, 24.1pts, 4.7rbd)** who played in just seven games but filled it each night, several times better than 30. Still, the yellow and red needed four upset wins to claim the title but were unable to get the all important first one as they dropped their playoff opener 117-98 to the Tacoma Tide. **2009 All-Stars: Damian Browne and Travis Noble.**

Edmonton Energy (17-4) – 1st West Division – Longest Win Streak, Season = 13 active; Longest Loss Streak, Season = 1

Edmonton was one of the league's best stories in their rookie year of 2008 as they won 13 games and advanced to round 2 of the playoffs. The 2009 entry—a new ownership group featuring 7 local Edmonton names—entered 2009 new and improved but with the same strong coaching and high quality local talent mixed with some key imports; Edmonton was thinking championship all the way. 2-Time All-Star (IBL 2006 and 2008) **JR Patrick (21G, 19pts, 3.5rbd)** and fellow Edmonton product **Steve Sir (21G, 22.3pts, 7.3rbd, 3.1ast)** led the way in this improved year two for the team. Edmonton also welcomed back 6'11" Georgetown product **Lee Scruggs (21G, 17.9, 8.7rbd)** who was joined down in the post by another Alberta boy, **Skouson Harker (21G, 18pts, 8.3rbd)**, to

help control the lane for the league's northernmost club. The Energy, however, had to fill the hole left by 2008 All-Star Rashaun Broadus whose European commitments prevented him from playing this year, so the IBL looked to an IBL veteran **William Funn (21G, 14.1pts, 8.9rbd, 12.3ast)**—a former Salem Stampede (IBL) point guard in the tough 2007 season (Salem was 18-2 at one point with Funn as point guard two years ago); all Funn did was come within an eyelash of averaging a triple-double for the season and finish in the top three in the league in assists. **Andrew Parker (19G, 15.6pts, 3.3rbd)**, who won the IBL Post-Season Slam Dunk Contest in 2008, nearly tripled his scoring average, making huge strides in his second pro season since finishing college. Edmonton's spectacular season afforded them a first round bye and the #1 seed overall; unfortunately, that got them a date with the host Snohomish Explosion and the high scoring Devon Greene who led them to a 143-131 win and sent the Energy home with a bitter taste in their mouths. **2009 All-Stars: William Funn, Steve Sir, Lee Scruggs, Skouson Harker and JR Patrick.**

Los Angeles Lightning (16-4) – 2nd West Division – Longest Win Streak, Season = 6, Longest Loss Streak, Season = 1

Once more the Los Angeles Lightning have assembled a roster with some of the best known names in all the IBL as they feature several former UCLA Bruins and six NBA vets as well. NBA players- Lamond Murray, Toby Bailey, Bryon Russell, Fred Vinson, Juaquin Hawkins and Darrick Martin combine for 42 years of NBA experience. In fact, much of this season's roster is back from 2008 (a season where the Lightning lost more games than it won) but in 2009—led by Fred Vinson—the team wanted to win. In 2009, the team battled for one of the top four seeds and a first round bye—and they did that behind **Lamond Murray (14G, 24.2pts, 6.7rbd)**, **Fred Vinson (17G, 17.5pts, 2.5ast)**, and **Toby Bailey (8G, 18.2pts, 8.2rbd, 7.5ast)** all of which have been All-Stars in the IBL in the past, and in 2009—they again been nominated to the All Star squad after a terrific 2009 season. In particular, Bailey who has played in just a few games, has scored 38, recorded a triple-double, and finished within an assist of another. The Lightning also received a full year from former Utah Jazz standout **Bryon Russell (18G, 12.1pts, 6.4rbd)** who tied for the team lead in games played and led the team in game wisdom. Team Owner Mark Harwell found another jewel in the So-Cal hoops haven plucking **Adam Parada (9G 18.4pts, 12.7rbd)** another veteran professional who has been with five NBA organizations and won championships both internationally and on the NCAA Div-1 conference level; in fact Parada scored a double-double in all six games that he has played. All that big game experience prove invaluable as Parada and the L.A. Lightning beat the Seattle Mountaineers in a second round thriller (the Lightning earned a first round bye) by just a few points. The L.A. Lightning then went on to play the defending champion Bellingham Slam for the right to play for their first IBL crown. The Lightning trailed the Slam early (down 11 points) but cut the lead to four points at halftime before taking the lead early in the third quarter; the Lightning never trailed again on their way to winning 132-121 and earning a spot in the IBL Championships, which they will host, starting on July 25th. **2009 All-Stars: Lamond Murray, Fred Vinson, Bryon Russell, Toby Bailey and Darrick Martin.** Juaquin Hawkins made honourable mention. For a full preview of the IBL 2009 championship game between the Oregon Wave and the Lightning, see news release on main page of the IBL web site.

Oregon Waves (15-7) – 1st South Division – Longest Win Streak, Season = 5, Longest Loss Streak, Season = 3

Owner and Head Coach Terrence Dickens has brought his deep understanding of IBL basketball, and considerable talents to his third organization (Dickens was co-owner and GM of the Volcanoes in 2005 and 2006 and Dickens was the head coach of the 2007 and 2008 Portland Chinooks). Dickens, in 2009 put together a roster that won 5 of 6 games heading into the playoffs. The Waves were anchored this year by perhaps the league's tallest, **Brad Kanis (26G, 12.8pts, 8.6rbd)** – he was 9th in the IBL in rebounding - and shortest, **Jeremiah Dominguez (18G, 21.2pts, 8.2ast)** players. The team MVP, though, was probably **Robert Day (14G, 24.7pts, 9.2rbd, 4.5ast)** who was 8th in the IBL in scoring, and finished in the top-15 in rebounding as well. The club's 4th All-Star Nominee, Oregon State product **Lamar Hurd (12G, 19.3pts, 5.7rbd, 6.4ast)**, produced a top-20 type stat line, in all three categories, while contributing to the team's quietly strong year. Lamar Hurd is considered by many to be one of the best players in the IBL and his abilities were unleashed at the IBL tournament. Hurd, like the Wave peaked at the playoffs winning over the Vancouver Volcanoes and winning over the host Snohomish County Explosion to punch their ticket to play Los Angeles for the league title July 25th. **2009 All-Stars: Jeremiah Dominguez, Lamar Hurd and Robert Day.** For a full preview of the IBL 2009 championship game between the Oregon Wave and the Los Angeles Lightning, see news release on the main page of the IBL web site.

Seattle Mountaineers (13-8) – 4th West Division, Longest Win Streak, Season = 3, Longest Loss Streak, Season = 2

After sitting out the 2008 season, the itch was just too strong for Head Coach and President Don Sims, and so the IBL welcomed the Mountaineers back for 2009. Seattle returned to the league as a non-profit team, with all staff and players volunteering and all proceeds going to charity. Still, the club more than held their own in the league's toughest division, the West, with wins this year against the defending champion Slam, the star-studded LA Lightning, and wins over the playoff host Snohomish County Explosion. Unfortunately, Seattle was never able to get the strong momentum needed for a long winning streak, perhaps at least partly because of the fact that they were a travel team this year and played their whole schedule on the road. The team did get great loyalty from their roster with 14 players appearing in at least 10 games led by one of the IBL's legendary stars—that star at the top of the Mountaineers was **Donald Watts (15G, 27.9pts, 6.2rbd, 4.1ast)** the former University of Washington Huskie and son of playground legend and

former NBA star Slick Watts. Watts finished #3 in league scoring average with a 27.9 points per game average. Seattle also gained **Rashaad Powell** back to the line-up, late in the season who finished fourth in the IBL in scoring (11 games, 27.3 points per game). Seattle matched up with the L.A. Lightning in the 2nd round of the playoffs (both teams got a bye in the 1st round) but Seattle was unable to get a second win against the star-studded line up and was narrowly eliminated by a 128-126 score by the eventual bracket champs. **2009 All-Stars: Donald Watts and Rashaad Powell.**

Snohomish County Explosion (11-12) – 2nd North Division, Long Win Streak, Season = 2, Long Loss Streak, Season = 4

It was a transition year for the Explosion as they bid farewell to several perennial All-Stars, a legendary Seattle area coach (Randy Redwine) and made an organizational decision to get younger. Even their coach Chris Weakly was playing, as recently as last season, before putting on a suit and moving to the front of the bench (although Weakly would eventually dust off his uniform and finish the year as a player/coach). The gang at Monroe knew there would be growing pains. And there were. Still, the Explosion found some great pieces as they re-built the organization. Principal among the new, young pieces is **Devon Greene (22G, 37.1pts, 9.9rbd, 4ast)** who led the league in scoring by a long shot and currently sits in the top-10 in IBL rebounding. Snohomish also received an All-Star performance from **Richard Ford (13G, 25.6pts, 13.8rbd)** before he accepted an overseas deal and left the team in early June (returned for the IBL playoffs though and was considered one of the top 5 players in the IBL that weekend by scouts in attendance). Thankfully, during Ford's absence, the Explosion were able to turn to **Ike Ohanson (21G, 18.8pts, 11.3rbd)** who was a double-double machine. But as we know, a team needs a guard and in veteran **Anthony Slater (21G, 8pts, 5.3rbd, 13.8ast)** they found the league's top assist man who is also a versatile, if under-sized, floor general who was able to help the club move forward and grow together, each week. The Explosion again hosted the IBL playoffs and were hoping to peak at the right time; then, some great news—Richard Ford freed up some time from previous obligation to return to the Snohomish County Explosion, in time for the IBL Playoffs. “This brings a good team to a playoff championship caliber team” said General Manager Sean Keck in adding Richard Ford back to the active roster. “This makes us very powerful down low (because) with Ford and Ohanson you got 50 points 30 rebounds per game.” Keck was right and after winning their playoff opener against Vancouver BC, they shocked everyone as they finished off Canada with a 143-131 win over, the #1 seeded Edmonton Energy. **Jason Hicks** was dominant in both games and dominant in all phases of the game—defensively, scoring, passing, etc. and all as Hicks came off of the bench as part of an Explosion second surge that cut off any breathing room the Titans or the next night Energy teams might have had in any comeback attempt; Hicks scored 26 points and 27 points- off of the bench- in both wins. The game was viewed by many in attendance as one of the best team performances in the five year history of the IBL. The run ended there however, as the Explosion could not sustain their play in a third game in three days and lost the National Bracket Final to the Oregon Wave (the Wave was in their second game in two days). **2009 All-Stars: Richard Ford, Devon Greene and Anthony Slater.**

Tacoma Tide (14-8) – 3rd West Division, Longest Win Streak, Season = 5, Longest Loss Streak, Season = 3

Tacoma is one of the league's original cities (fifth year for the city, fifth year for many of the players on the current team) but this 2009 team was under a new ownership and a brand new culture. The team—like the Seattle Mountaineers was a not for profit team with players donating time to the team and the team donating to the community. This new Tacoma entry—the Tacoma Tide came into 2009 with a goal of increasing their win total for a second straight year after winning just 5 games in 2007. They found success in this goal and in fact Tacoma opened the year at 5-0, and recently won five of their last seven, including beating Bellingham in an overtime thriller. Tacoma's rock has been **Dontay Harris (22G, 18.8pts, 11.5rbd, 4.5ast)**; after another great year Harris received his fourth All-Star selection. They also received another outstanding year from **Lorenzo Rollins (21G, 16.4pts, 5rbd)**. The team's leading scorer was Washington State product, **Justin Murray (11G, 23.3pts, 9.4rbd)** who finished 11th in the league in scoring. Those three players provided exactly what the club expected from veteran all-stars, but the team must have been a little surprised by the all-league type season turned in by rookie guard **Antwan Williams (22G, 13.5pts, 5.9ast)** who is currently 10th in the IBL for assists per game. Adding Antwan Williams to this cast of veterans and this new ownership group was the perfect mix to make the Tacoma Tide a contender for the IBL title. Tacoma won a round one match-up with the Central Oregon Hotshots but saw their season end at the hands of the 2009 champs from Bellingham in round two. **2009 All-Stars: Justin Murray, Antwan Williams, Lorenzo Rollins and Dontay Harris** (this is Dontay Harris' fourth All Star selection in five years of play and with this 2009 season complete, Dontay Harris is now—the new all time leading scorer in the IBL w/ 2213 points scored over five years of play just passing up Vancouver Volcanoes Kevin 'Pip' Bloodsaw who is now second with 2063 points scored over five years).

Vancouver BC Titans (9-14) – 3rd North Division, Longest Win Streak, Season = 3, Longest Loss Streak, Season = 8

The Vancouver B.C. Titans played their first full season in 2009 and learned the same lesson as most new teams, that the IBL is a far tougher league than you probably thought. The Titans opened the year with three wins, before reality set in and they lost 11 of 12 including dropping eight straight. Vancouver hung tough though and put on a strong kick to the finish and won 5 of 6 heading into their final home game against the Edmonton Energy, a battle of Canada (Edmonton won that game by 30 points). The Titans had

several standouts this year, beginning with **Jessan Gray (19G, 16.9pts, 10.1rbd)** who has been solid in the post all season as he worked an inside-outside game with **Kyle Keyes (19G, 21pts, 4.7rbd, 10ast)**, who is fourth in IBL assists. They used a Canadian boy, **James Hudson (20G, 14.2pts, 5.5rbd, 3.2ast)** as a change-of-pace guy while **Emmanuel Unaegbu (21G, 11.9pts, 8.2rbd)** served as an energy banger down low. The first year club took their playoff lumps as they were sent home early after dropping their post season opener to the host Snohomish County Explosion. Expect the BC Titans to come back with a vengeance in 2010. **2009 All-Stars: Kyle Keyes, Jessan Gray and James Hudson.** Emmanuel Unaegbu made honourable mention (for the All Star selections).

Vancouver Volcanoes (15-8) – 2nd South Division, Longest Win Streak, Season = 5, Longest Loss Streak, Season = 3

After struggling in their first three seasons in the IBL, the Volcanoes have now gone 33-14 over the last two seasons under new owner Bryan Hunter and the Volcanoes have emerged as one of the top teams in the IBL. The Volcanoes welcomed back two veteran stars in 2009 and received a high level of play from their former All-Stars, **Porter Troupe (12G, 14.1pts, 3.7rbd, 4.8ast)** and **Kevin Tyner (23G, 16.9pts, 5.7rbd, 8.9ast)** who currently is 5th in assists. However, the biggest story for Vancouver this season had to be **Bryson McKenzie (21G, 17.8pts, 14.6rbd)**. In his first IBL season he finished tied for first in rebounding and in the top-30 among scorers; McKenzie also recorded a double-double in nearly every contest and collected 20+ boards several times during the 2009 season. Bryson set the all time IBL record for most rebounds in a game and a few weeks back, signed with the Dallas Mavericks to play in the NBA Summer League and preseason. The Volcanoes opened the 2009 season on a tear as they raced to a 9-3 mark, but the team suffered a midseason lull in which they went 3-3. The organization was able to dig down and right the ship and they won three of their last four contests prior to the post season. The Volcanoes were a favorite entering the playoff tournament but ended up as the first victim of the Waves as they cruised to the IBL championship with a second round win over Vancouver. **2009 All-Stars: Bryson McKenzie, Kevin Tyner, Cliff White and Alex Hartman.**

TEAM BY TEAM END OF SEASON REVIEWS OF TEAMS THAT DID NOT ATTEND PLAYOFFS

Grand Rapids Flight (7-9) – 3rd East Division – Longest Win Streak, Season = 2, Longest Loss Streak, Season = 3

The Flight is another original IBL team that was trying to recapture the glory of their earlier years. After beginning the franchise with a 27-16 record (2005 and 2006 seasons), the club has yet to reach an even mark for the season since, although they have improved their winning percentage in back-to-back years. This year—2009, Head Coach David Fox had to work with a frequently changing cast of players as the Flight dressed more than 20 different players, although they had a strong core group of seven who saw action in at least half their games. Grand Rapids 2009 team used a different plan than we might have expected from the team that once featured pro-basketball's tallest ever player, 7'9" Sun Ming Ming, as they relied on a group of quick and talented guards to keep them competitive against the gritty and talented East Division. Speaking of those guards, former USA All-Star **Zak Ramey (15G, 19.4pts, 4.2rbd, 5ast)**, an Illinois native, went north to serve as a team leader for the Flight along with **Maurice Benson (8G, 17.5pts, 4rbd, 4.5ast)**. Ramey and Benson formed a quick and talented backcourt tandem. **2009 All-Stars: Zak Ramey, Maurice Benson**

Holland Blast (15-4) – 1st East Division – Longest Win Streak, Season = 8, Longest Loss Streak, Season = 1

The Blast were the best team in the East this season as they dominated division play losing only to long-time rivals the Soldiers, once at home and once on the road. For their two games on their trip by flight (all IBL teams fly one time during the season), the Blast lost a pair of games by 40 points and 50 points respectively, to the Vancouver Volcanoes and the Oregon Wave. The Blast's 15 wins in the 2009 season is the most wins in any season in Blast history (impressive as the Blast is an organization that has reached double figures in victories in each of their four seasons in the IBL). Blast Head Coach Duane Bosma used strength through depth to achieve success in the fast-paced world of IBL basketball, utilizing multiple players and balanced scoring—in fact, 9 nine of the 11 players (that played more than 11 games for the Blast) averaged 10 or more points per game and with regards to team rebounding, seven guys averaged 5 rebounds or more per game. The club's leading scorer was **Rachmin Dillard (12G, 21.5pts, 5.5rbd)**. The team had just three players who played in every game so far this year, player/Head Coach Duane Bosma, who played college ball locally at Hope College along with the team's All-Star nominees, **Eddie Spencer (17G, 17.9pts, 7.5rbd)** and **Julius Vines (19G, 15.6pts, 4.9rbd)**, who dominated on the stat sheet, both scoring at better than 20 a game over the last month of the season. **2009 All-Stars: Rachmin Dillard, Eddie Spencer, Julius Vines**

Kankakee County Soldiers (12-8) – 2nd East Division – Longest Win Streak, Season = 4, Longest Loss Streak, Season = 2

The Soldiers entered the 2009 campaign, their third season in the league, returning a good portion of the team that battled for 11 wins in 2008, but the Soldiers were missing their All-Star Erik Rhinehart who was averaging 16.5 a game in Austria. The Soldiers struggled a bit early on as they re-established their team concept, battling to a 3-4 record to open the year. The team then turned to veteran All-Star **Demarcus Bolton (10G, 16pts, 7.8rbd)** who helped flip Kankakee's fortunes as they got on a roll and were victorious in 9 of

their final 13 ballgames. Also for the Soldiers, **Laurence Burnett (20G, 19.3pts, 8rbd)** was one of just two players to appear in all the team's games, along with Carl Fine; Burnett would lead the team in both scoring and rebounding and Burnett finished in the IBL's top-20 in both categories as well. **Stan Chismark (15G, 18.4pts, 6.4rbd)** would be another key piece for a Soldiers club which has improved its winning percentage in each year of its existence and finished above .500 for the first time in this 2009 season. **2009 All-Stars: Demarcus Bolton, Lawrence Burnett, Stan Chismark**

USA All-Stars (4-16) – 4th North Division, Longest Win Streak, Season = 2, Longest Loss Streak, Season = 8

The USA All-Stars, in their second season as an IBL club, are essentially a traveling try-out team that the league uses to showcase talent that the teams might have missed, and it's a plan that seems to be working as 14 players signed with IBL clubs in 2008, and 17 more players making IBL teams during the 2009 season. The USA All Stars team showed that there are still good players to be had as they increased their wins from one to four securing victories against veteran clubs like the Kankakee County Soldiers and the Snohomish County Explosion. Both of the club's All-Star nominees have moved on to other IBL clubs but did play seven games for the All Stars and these two players' overall accomplishments (total number of games, total statistics) are indeed worthy of recognition. **Terrence Hundley (15G, 29.4pts, 4rbd, 6.1ast)**, who played 6 games for the USA All Stars, 3 games for the Grand Rapids Flight and 6 games for the Central Oregon Hotshots was 2nd in the league in scoring and 9th in the IBL in assists per game. The USA All-Stars also brought the league one of the fastest guards in America—**Terry Jeffries (22G, 18.3pts, 4.8rbd, 5.2ast)**—another electric guard who's year has been so good that he was eventually signed by the Central Oregon Hotshots. The USA All Stars program/team will play in 2010 and beyond as the program/team has been deemed a success (now most every game is a competitive game and 31 players have made it onto an IBL team roster). **2009 All-Stars: Terrence Hundley and Terry Jeffries**

Nippon Tornadoes (0-18) – 4th East Division – Longest Win Streak, Season = 0, Longest Loss Streak, Season = 18

Needless to say, when you lose all 18 games on your schedule it has been a tough year. The Tornadoes used several dynamic guards who scored at a furious pace as they tried valiantly to keep all of their games close. The Tornadoes only suffered from a lack of low post presence but otherwise the Tornadoes would have won quite a few games. The Tornadoes were fantastic to watch and their guard play was so solid, that 2 IBL teams inquired about taking their guards onto their teams down the stretch of the season (the Tornadoes were not staying for the playoffs but the two IBL teams were—and they wanted the Japanese guards). The league recognized the accomplishments of **Daisuke Tamura (18G, 26.7pts, 3.4rbd, 4ast)** and **Masaharu Kataoka (18G, 26pts, 4.5rbd, 4.1ast)** both of whom contributed Herculean efforts over the long year for the Tornadoes. Yuuto Okumoto was the team's leading rebounder at 6.5 per game to go with his nearly 20 point per night average. Look for a recharged, and bigger, Nippon club in 2010. **2009 All-Stars: Daisuke Tamura and Masaharu Kataoka**

About the IBL: unique features that distinguish the IBL from other professional basketball leagues

- **Extremely low travel costs**—Organizing teams in regional clusters has enabled the IBL to offer owners an unprecedented 'one flight guarantee'. IBL teams can play a variety of opponents from all over the country, indeed, the world but the owners only fly one time. This efficiency also applies to international teams, who can play a complete 20-game schedule in American—with just their one flight to the U.S.
- **An entertaining game**—by allowing only one timeout per quarter, and reducing dead time with an immediate inbounds policy, IBL games are always fast and entertaining (the contest only lasts two hours).
- **Player development**: the fast paced play of the IBL produced great players who would then leave the IBL to go overseas after the season expired. After the 2007 IBL season, 102 IBL players went on to play overseas; this 2007 season established the IBL as the league to play in—to get or maintain an overseas basketball job.
- **The IBL is international**: China (Shanxi) and Canada (Edmonton) competed in 2008 and in the 2009 season—a team from Japan (the Nippon Tornadoes) and a second Canadian team—the Vancouver Titans from British Columbia competed in the IBL. In addition to teams from Asia and Canada playing in the IBL, IBL teams have gone to Asia to compete; both the Central Oregon Hotshots and the Elkhart (Indiana) Express played games in China. To date, ten Asian teams have exchanged games with the IBL.
- **Ex NBA players that have played in the IBL**: Twenty one former NBA players have appeared in the IBL including former NBA All Stars Tim Hardaway, Dennis Rodman and Shawn Kemp. Two former NBA all stars have coached in the IBL—Terry Mills (full season) and Slick Watts (All Star game).
- **Highest attendance**: An impressive attendance was garnered at an IBL game played in 2006 in Portland Oregon at the Rose Garden where 4,400 fans watched the Portland Chinooks beat the Vancouver Volcanoes—video available on the IBL web site—click on Vancouver Volcanoes; a year later, that attendance record was eclipsed when 6,000 fans saw the Elkhart Express (IN) beat the Grand Rapids Flight; video found on IBL web site, main page.
- **About IBL founder Mikal Duilio**: Founder Mikal Duilio has operated sports leagues and events for 23 years. As a teenager from 1985 to 1992—Duilio founded & directed the Indianola Jamball League (Iowa). In 1992, Duilio obtained a Masters Degree from Iowa State University and moved to Portland, Oregon where he founded & directed PortlandBasketball.Com. For 15 years and running—PortlandBasketball.Com has been and is—the world's largest basketball league with 6,000 amateur basketball games per year. Duilio founded PugetSoundBasketball.Com in Seattle in 2004, but sold the business within one year. In November of 2003, Mikal Duilio founded the International Basketball League with test games in the Pacific NW; the first official IBL game occurred in April of 2005—on that opening night—former NBA All Star Tim Hardaway scored 50 points (for a team in Waterloo, Iowa) in an overtime loss 129-131. The International Basketball League is heading into its sixth year—starting in April of 2010.

For more info, photos & videos about the IBL or about IBL teams, visit www.iblhoopsonline.com