



NEWS RELEASE

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Dave Youngs announced as new Energy Head Coach

April 4, 2012 – Edmonton, Alta. – The Edmonton Energy has announced the selection of Dave Youngs as the team's Head Coach going into the 2012 International Basketball League season.

Youngs is a well-respected member of Edmonton's coaching fraternity, having served as Head Coach at Ross Shepard High School since 1992, winning numerous Alberta Provincial Championships and helping develop many standout players, including Stephen Sir, Jermaine Bucknor and Mangisto Arop. He was twice named Alberta's Coach of the Year in 2000 and 2004.

Prior to joining the coaching ranks, Youngs enjoyed a fine career as a Golden Bear at the University of Alberta in the late 1980's, where he finished among the school's career leaders in three point shooting and was named as the top defensive player in the Canada West Conference.

Youngs, who views this opportunity as a learning experience, is not completely unfamiliar with the professional coaching ranks as he served as an Assistant Coach for the Energy during the 2010 season, helping the team to a 14-6 record.

"I am a coach who likes to keep control of the ball and get the shots we need to be successful," commented Youngs. "I am excited to see how I will have to adjust the way I do things with older players. I believe communication and getting the guys to buy into what we are doing is going to be key."

Youngs already feels confident about the Energy's chances this season, stating "I am expecting to have a team to contend for the championship. In order for us to win we will have to establish an inside game on offense and play really tough defensively."

"I think we will be able to do different things as these guys are very good players with lots of basketball experience," concluded Youngs.

Energy General Manager Rick Stanley was pleased to be able to attract a leader as talented as Youngs to serve as the team's new head man, and admitted his surprise that another team hadn't chosen him first.

“In my mind we now have the coach that we set out to get when this whole process began,” beamed Stanley. “He carries a strong torch in this community and through his playing days with the Golden Bears and his mentorship and leadership as a coach and teacher we could not be happier.”

Joining Youngs on the sideline will be Mike Hansen, who adds extra credibility to the coaching staff as the current Head Coach for the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology and formerly of Lethbridge College, where he was named Alberta’s Coach of the Year in 2011.

The Energy open the 2012 IBL season with a pair of road games in Orlando on April 27 and 28, before returning home to play their first game at the GO Centre on May 4 at 7 p.m. against the Jersey G-Force.

For more information on the Energy or to purchase tickets, visit their website at www.edmontonnrg.com.

About International Basketball League (IBL)

The International Basketball League (IBL) is a professional sports association based in Vancouver, Wash., that engages high level basketball talent. The league is dedicated to fostering international basketball talent and focuses on providing family friendly events as well as helping players find positions in international leagues such as the BJ League, Basketball Bundesliga (BBL), and the Portuguese Basketball League (LCB). The IBL is in its eighth year of operation with teams across the United States and Canada. To learn more about the International Basketball League visit: www.ibl.com.

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