

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## SALEM SABRES SIGNS ITS FIRST OUT OF STATE PLAYER

May 5, 2013 – Salem, Oregon - The Salem Sabres have signed 6'4' 175 lb Guard, Deion Baker, from New Oreleans, Louisiana.

Deion played Point Guard for 4 years at Fair Park High School in Shreveport, Louisiana and led his team to the State Championship (second in school history and first since 1963).

Last Season (2011-2012) Deion began his Professional Basketball career with the Cleveland Havok of the UBA in Cleveland, Texas. Deion lead the Team to the Western Conference Title and UBA Semi-Finals in the team's Expansion Season averaging 20 points 6 rebounds and 8 assists a game.

For the 2012-13 Winter Season, Deion signed and played 13 games for the Columbus Storm of the OVBL averaging 25 points and 12 assists while shooting 54 FG and 44 3FG from the field while also avg. 3 steals and 2 blocks being an all-around performer for the Storm.

Deion is a multi-talented player who can pass, and score in a variety of ways. Playing the game since age 5, Deion eat, sleep, and lives basketball. His goal in joining the Sabres is to hopefully get the attention of some overseas teams.

"We have had numerous of out of state athletes and agents contact our organization wanting to play or send us players to us. In our first winter season we were not at a point to house any out of state players. Through some great community partnerships this summer season we have been afforded the opportunity to house some players. Oregon has some great talent, but this also gives us a chance to offer a young aspiring athlete from another state a chance to play in the Pacific Northwest, said GM Joe Becerra".

The Salem Sabres will open their first IBL season with back to back games on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2012 against the defending champions, Bellingham Slam and May 5<sup>th</sup> against the 2011 championship team, the Vancouver Volcanoes. Both games will be played at Chemeketa Community College.

For the Sabres complete schedule and tickets go to www.ibl.com.