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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Slam Dunk to the Beach Announces Attendance Figures & All-Tournament Team

Fans flock to Delaware Beaches for Three-Day Event

Lewes, DE – December 30, 2015 – Slam Dunk to the Beach returned to Cape Henlopen High School on Sunday, December 27 through 29 and was once again a hit amongst fans. A total of 12,017 people watched the excitement in Lewes over a three-day span. With the success of the event and over 22,000 fans enjoying the action over the last two seasons, the Delaware Sports Commission is also proud to announce that the tournament will once again return in December 2016.

"We are ecstatic that we surpassed last year's numbers" said **Dr. Matthew Robinson**, chairman of the Delaware Sports Commission. "Our attendance goals were once again set high and we are more than pleased with the increase from last December. The fans, high school and college coaches, and media have given us positive feedback. This event was another victory for the state of Delaware."

The Delaware Sports Commission also released the Slam Dunk to the Beach All-Tournament team. The honorees include seven representatives from the field's 19 teams. **David Beatty** (St. Benedict's Prep), **Mikey Dixon** (Sanford School), **Luka Garza** (Maret School), **V.J. King** (Paul VI), **Cameron Reddish** (Westtown School), **Nate Watson** (Bishop O'Connell) and **Sidney Wilson** (St. Raymond High School) represent six players from the national field and one from Delaware.

Junior guard, **David Beatty**, led the charge for a St. Benedict's squad that went undefeated in two games during the event. The Gray Bees defeated a loaded Westtown School team on Monday night and followed with an encore performance on Tuesday evening by beating USA Today's number three ranked team in the country, La Lumiere (IN). Beatty led St. Benedict's Prep in scoring in both games and helped his team improve to 10-0 to start the season.

In Sanford's second straight visit to Slam Dunk to the Beach, it was Senior **Mikey Dixon** who proved to be a fan favorite. Dixon lit up Dover (DE) for 39 points in the final game of Sunday's slate of games. In Monday's closing act, Dixon led his underdog Warriors up against nationally-ranked La Lumiere and almost pulled off the upset. Sanford built a lead thanks for the Senior's 25 points, but eventually fell in overtime. The Quinnipiac commit's 39 points on 11-of-18 shooting and 15-of-18 from the line were the most individual points scored in a single Slam Dunk game in the two year modern history of the event.

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The tournament began on Sunday at noon with a memorable win for Maret School over Appoquinimink and a remarkable performance by the school's center, **Luka Garza**. The 6'10 junior set the tone for the rest of the event with 32 points in the opener on an unbelievably efficient 75% from the field. Garza would match his 32 point scoring output the very next day against top-10 ranked Roman Catholic (PA). The big man led all Slam Dunk participants with 79 minutes played and tied Mikey Dixon with 64 total points in two games.

Perhaps the most impressive two games belonged to Paul VI, who were led by Senior **V.J. King**. Glenn Farrello's team left Lewes, DE with a pair of Top 25 wins. First, the Warriors defeated MaxPrep's 20th ranked team, Neumann-Goretti (PA), with King chipping in 16 points and seven rebounds. Then, the Louisville commit scored a game high 28 points and registered a double-double by adding 10 rebounds in a victory over 13th ranked Roselle Catholic (NJ). One of ESPN's top 30 rated players in the 2016 class, King showed why he's ready to compete in the ACC next year.

The first two-time Slam Dunk to the Beach All-Tournament Team selection is **Cameron Reddish**. Cam came on the scene last year as a freshman at Haverford and made the list. This year, as a sophomore at Westtown School, he excelled again. Now firmly on the radar of every top Division 1 program in the nation, Reddish scored 33 points and dished out six assists in a two game span. A top-10 rated member of the 2018 class, the sharpshooter also knocked down 5 three pointers.

The only player with a pair of double-doubles at the event was Bishop O'Connell junior, **Nate Watson**. A top-25 center in the class of 2017, Watson dropped 11 points and grabbed 11 rebounds on Sunday against Mount Pleasant (DE) and then two days later scored 17 points and grabbed 15 more rebounds against MaxPrep's seventh ranked team in the nation, The Patrick School (NJ). The 6'8" center's 26 rebounds were a Slam Dunk to the Beach individual high over the three-days in Lewes.

Sidney Wilson of St. Raymond High School for Boys rounds out this season's award winners. The do-it-all small forward wowed the Cape Henlopen crowd with electrifying jams and thrilling blocked shots. Wilson had 31 points in his Slam Dunk debut against Friendship Collegiate Academy, along with six swats on defense. In the junior's second game vs. Delaware's St. Elizabeth, he added 21 points and a tournament single game high of 17 rebounds.

Amongst the 12,017 attendees over the 18 games and three days were many of the nation's top coaches. Watching these top performers and many others were coaches from Kentucky, Villanova, Maryland, Southern California, Penn State and more. The All-Tournament Team was chosen by select members of the media and the Slam Dunk to the Beach committee.

About Delaware Sports Commission:

The Delaware Sports Commission, a not-for-profit organization, was established to attract regional and national level sporting events to Delaware as an endeavor to positively impact Delaware's economy. The DSC also assists with the retention and growth of existing sporting events. To date, the DSC has partnered with over 50 regional and national events, paving the way for future large-scale events to be held in Delaware

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