



OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

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Contacts:

Prime Time Sports | 503.482.5744 | fax: 971.224.4394  
John McCallum, President – [jmac@primetimepdx.com](mailto:jmac@primetimepdx.com)  
Reggie Walker, Director – [rwalker@primetimepdx.com](mailto:rwalker@primetimepdx.com)

**Portland, OR** – 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 for four days of entertaining basketball games and fun for the entire family. This year marks *The 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary* for the holiday basketball tournament and it will once again feature future college and NBA stars that the tournament has been accustomed to showcasing for two decades. The tournament will take place **December 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>** at Liberty High School in Hillsboro, Oregon.

The 2016 Les Schwab Invitational presented by Express Employment Professionals returns two familiar teams in **Gonzaga (Washington, DC)** and 2015 LSI 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Finisher **Garfield (Seattle, WA)**. Making their LSI debut will be **Sierra Canyon (Chatsworth, CA)** and **Nathan Hale (Seattle, WA)**. All four national schools figure to be ranked in the Top 25 of the preseason national polls when they release later this month.

With potentially the most star talent in the history of the LSI, the 2016 field will be headlined by Sierra Canyon's [Marvin Bagley III who is the No.1 ranked junior in the country](#). Many believe Bagley III - who is considering Duke, Kentucky, Arizona, and Oregon – to be the top prospect in high school basketball regardless of class. Nathan Hale –coached by former Portland Trailblazer great **Brandon Roy**- features the [No.2 ranked player in the senior class, University of Washington commit, Michael Porter Jr.](#) Garfield will return their top two players from last season in Top 50 senior guards **Daejon Davis** and **Jaylen Nowell**. Gonzaga will be led by one of the nation's most exciting players, [5'6 Guard Chris Lykes](#).

Headlining the list of Oregon teams is **West Linn**, the four-time defending State Champion; and **Jefferson**, who returns virtually everyone from last season's team which finished fourth in the state. The Democrats have bolstered an already strong group with the addition of Top 30 junior forward **Kamaka Hepa** - who has scholarship offers from nearly the entire Pac-12, Gonzaga, Oklahoma, Texas, among others.

Ten other Oregon schools (League and State Classification) round out the 2016 field.

**Beaverton** (Metro League – 6A)  
**Central Catholic** (Mt. Hood Conference – 6A)  
**Century** (Metro League – 6A)  
**Churchill** (5A Midwestern League)  
**Clackamas** (Mt. Hood Conference – 6A)  
**Grant** (Portland Interscholastic League – 6A)  
**Jesuit** (Metro League – 6A)  
**Lake Oswego** (Three Rivers League – 6A)  
**South Salem** (Greater Valley Conference – 6A)  
**Westview** (Metro League – 6A)



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