

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**The Breakdown's Tip Off Classic is *THE* most historic  
boys' high school basketball event in the state**

*Twenty ranked teams and 30 D1 prospects hit the courts at Minnetonka High School  
for a one-day showdown, Saturday, Dec. 12, 2009*

BECKER, Minn. (Nov. 20, 2009) – Are you ready to get an early look at how top-ranked Hopkins stands in its state title defense by facing off against No. 6 Tartan? How about the big-man battle when No. 3 Henry Sibley and D1 prospects Jake Kreuser and Mike Rostampour butt heads with Cloquet and big Chad Calcaterra? Guards more your thing? Then get an early read on the Class AA race with No. 8 Braham and Tyler Vaughan against No. 3 Minnehaha Academy and Parker Hines.

It's not too early to get a look at the elite in Minnesota boys' high school basketball. The BREAKDOWN's Tip Off Classic has all those match-ups and many, many more.

Many of the top players and teams in the state of Minnesota will be on the courts at Minnetonka High School for The BREAKDOWN's seventh annual Tip Off Classic, Dec. 12, 2009. Games begin at 9:45 a.m. Saturday morning with a showdown between Sebeka and New London-Spicer and conclude at 8:15 p.m. Saturday night with a Minnetonka versus Chaska grudge match.

**Saturday, Dec. 12 – Minnetonka west gym**

9:45 a.m. – Sebeka (No. 4 A) vs. New London-Spicer (No. 1 AA)  
11:30 a.m. – Mpls North vs. Plainview-Elgin-Millville (No. 2 AA)  
1:15 p.m. – Minnetonka vs. Braham (girls)  
3:00 p.m. – Lakeville South vs. Benilde-St. Margaret's (No. 1 AAA)  
4:45 p.m. – Henry Sibley (No. 3 AAAA) vs. Cloquet  
6:30 p.m. – Hopkins (No. 1 AAAA) vs. Tartan (No. 6 AAAA)  
8:15 p.m. – Minnetonka (No. 2 AAAA) vs. Chaska (No. 7 AAAA)

**Saturday, Dec. 12 – Minnetonka east gym**

11:00 a.m. – Sibley East (No. 5 AA) vs. Waconia  
12:45 p.m. – Columbia Heights (No. 7 AAA) vs. Staples-Motley (No. 7 AA)  
2:30 p.m. – DeLaSalle (No. 3 AAA) vs. Osseo (No. 9 AAAA)  
4:15 p.m. – Braham (No. 8 AA) vs. Minnehaha Academy (No. 3 AA)  
6:00 p.m. – Mpls Patrick Henry (No. 6 AAA) vs. Minnesota Transitions (No. 3 A)  
7:45 p.m. – Champlin Park (No. 5 AAAA) vs. Cretin-Derham Hall (No. 4 AAAA)

The Tip Off Classic features more than 110 college prospects, including 30 who are being looked at by D1 schools. Twenty teams are ranked among the top-15 in the state in our preseason polls and three (Hopkins, Benilde-St. Margaret's and New London-Spicer) are considered preseason No. 1.

Check out these stats:

- Thirty potential Division I players, including nine who have already signed or given their verbal commitment
- Nearly 70 players with college scholarship potential
- At least 110 players with college basketball possibilities
- Eleven players who have already scored 1,000 career points
- Twenty of the Breakdown's Fab 40 seniors
- Nineteen of the Breakdown's Fab 40 juniors
- Twelve of the Breakdown's Top 30 underclassmen
- Two dozen coaches who have led a combined 63 teams to the state tournament
- Seven teams who qualified for state last year, including a defending state champion (Hopkins)
- Twenty-five state championships in the past 15 years by this year's participants
- Teams from 15 different sections and 17 different conferences
- A great mix of big and small schools, with two teams from Class A, six teams from Class AA, six teams from Class AAA and 10 teams from Class AAAA

The Tip Off Classic began back in January 2004. The BREAKDOWN staff wanted to showcase teams from across the state and provide unique, competitive match-ups that might not otherwise be seen, including top-rated teams with state tournament aspiration squaring off. The experiment worked out so well that now The BREAKDOWN now hosts the No. 1 single-day classic in Minnesota.

The BREAKDOWN is a full-service Minnesota high school sports company, offering season preview publications, in-season and youth tournaments, off-season leagues, newsletters, photography and an extensive website. We're in our seventh year covering boys and girls basketball, third in football and now in our first year in boys hockey and volleyball.

The goal of The BREAKDOWN is simple: We want to offer players, coaches and fans a complete basketball resource and experiences that they will never forget. In short, the BREAKDOWN is the "Minnesota high school sports encyclopedia."

Please visit our website at [www.mnsportspreview.com](http://www.mnsportspreview.com). For more information on the Tip Off Classics, please email Justin Hegna at [hegna@mnsportspreview.com](mailto:hegna@mnsportspreview.com). We welcome all suggestions and comments for upcoming editions by email at [tim@mnsportspreview.com](mailto:tim@mnsportspreview.com).