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Two Lacrosse Events to be Hosted by the Allstate Sugar Bowl

High School Classic Scheduled for Jan. 25-26 at Lafreniere Park

NEW ORLEANS – The Allstate Sugar Bowl will continue its extensive involvement with the sport of lacrosse as it sponsors a pair of exciting weekends showcasing the sport in 2014. The eighth annual Allstate Sugar Bowl Lacrosse Classic, featuring high school teams, will take place Jan. 25-26 at Lafreniere Park in Metairie. The fourth annual Allstate Sugar Bowl Collegiate Lacrosse series will be held March 7-9 at Pan American Stadium in City Park.

Full schedule will be available by Wednesday, Jan. 22. The high school lacrosse weekend, hosted by the Friends of New Orleans Lacrosse (FoNOLax) is expected to attract nearly 60 teams at the varsity, junior varsity and freshman levels, as well as U15, U13 and U11 teams. In addition, this year's high school event has added a four-team girls' division for the first time in its history. For more information and registration information, please visit www.fonolax.com or email Rob Wyman at uslaxref@aol.com.

Action begins at 8 a.m. on both Saturday and Sunday and will continue throughout the day on 10 fields. The varsity competition is highlighted by Klein High School from outside Houston. Klein has collected five titles (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012) in the event and St. Thomas More from Lafayette, which earned the title in 2011. Also included in the field is Jesuit High School and St. Paul's, who finished first and second in Louisiana, respectively, last year. Other top Louisiana schools in the field include Dutchtown, Baton Rouge Catholic, Brother Martin and Byrd (Shreveport). Other out-of-state challengers will include Cedar Ridge from north of Austin, Texas; Friendswood from

Houston; Spain Park from Birmingham; and Ocean Springs, one of the top programs in Mississippi. "We are very excited that our lacrosse events continue to expand," said Paul Hoolahan, Chief Executive Officer of the Allstate Sugar Bowl. "The sport continues to grow around the country and we're proud to continue to increase lacrosse exposure in New Orleans and Louisiana in keeping with our mission to promote tourism through amateur athletics." The weekend of collegiate action will include nine collegiate club teams: Alabama, Houston, Louisiana-Lafayette, LSU, Miami, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas State and Tulane. Lacrosse is recognized as one of the fastest growing team sports in the United States; the sport has seen youth participation grow over 500 percent since 1999 to nearly 250,000. The Allstate Sugar Bowl Lacrosse Series shows that growth as well. The inaugural Allstate Sugar Bowl high school lacrosse event in 2007 had eight teams participating. Since that time, the event has grown to a capacity slate of nearly 60 teams, while adding a second weekend which highlights collegiate club programs. The collegiate event began with two teams in 2001 and now features a full weekend slate of games.

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