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WASHINGTON CAPITALS SUPPORT ELITE GIRLS HOCKEY TOURNAMENT Local JWHL Team Hosting 4 Canadian, 3 US Teams

The Washington Capitals are not only making an impact in NHL arenas but are also making their presence felt among elite female hockey players throughout North America. Through the Capitals support of The 2008 JWHL Challenge Cup, the Washington, DC area will be able to witness some of the top high-school age female hockey players in North America.

The "2008 JWHL Challenge Cup - Presented by The Washington Capitals", will be held February 15-18 at the Rockville Arena in Rockville, MD. The tournament features teams from Vancouver, Winnipeg, Detroit, Vermont, Montreal, Chicago, Warner (Alberta), and the Washington, DC area. Games start Friday 2/15 at 5:10PM with The Warner (Alberta) Warriors facing off against the Balmoral Hall (Manitoba) Blazers. The Washington Pride takes on the Dawson College (Montreal) Blues at 9:10pm on opening night. Gold/Silver and Bronze medal games will take place on Monday 2/18 at 10:00am. The full schedule is available online at: www.jwhl.org.

The Junior Women's Hockey League is an elite 4-team league co-founded by The Washington Pride Girl's College-Prep ice hockey team (Bethesda, MD) and The North American Hockey Academy (Stowe, VT). The Pacific Steelers (Vancouver, BC), and Warner Hockey School (Warner, AB) round out the league, which has played a 16-game season. The JWHL was developed to bring together teams that regularly produce NCAA Division 1 and Division 3 players. The league is planning to expand from 4 to up to 10 teams for the 2008-2009 season.

Interesting facts about the 2008 JWHL Challenge Cup – Presented by The Washington Capitals:

- 35 players have already signed with NCAA Division 1 schools for 2008-2009
- 8 players played for the US or Canadian U18 National Teams
- Mikko Makela, Head Coach for the Warner Warriors, played for the NY Islanders, LA Kings, Buffalo Sabres, and Boston Bruins
- The Washington Pride has graduated 100% of it's players to NCAA Varsity hockey programs
- North American Hockey Academy is sending 9 seniors to Division 1 schools this fall
- Dawson College won the Quebec Provincial Championships last season going 33-0

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If you would like more information about the 2008 JWHL Challenge Cup, or to schedule an interview, please call Kush Sidhu at 301-257-8966 or email him at KSidhu35@mac.com.