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Sorenson Selected for NCAA College Basketball Academy

Ashland, Wis., July 10, 2023 – Northland College's head men's basketball coach, Scott Sorenson, was recently named as a coach for the upcoming NCAA College Basketball Academy. The invite-only program will take place in Memphis, Tennessee, from July 23 to 27.

"This is just a tremendous honor," said Sorenson. "To be selected alongside some of the top Division II, Division III, NAIA, and high school coaches in the country is incredibly humbling. I'm very excited to spend time coaching with some outstanding basketball minds."

The NCAA College Basketball Academies give prospective men's and women's student athletes a sample of the college basketball experience. Organized with input from the National Association of Basketball Coaches and the Women's Basketball Coaches Association, these developmental summer academies pair high-level basketball competition with life skills instruction.

In addition to basketball training, skill development, and games, participants and their parents or chaperones will attend life skills courses about NCAA eligibility and compliance; the recruiting process; name, image and likeness opportunities; agents; the transfer portal; and the pathway to professional basketball opportunities.

This is the first time the NCAA has hosted the academy since 2019. This year, the academy will include 400 of the top high school basketball players in the country. It will also include, for the first time, participants from Team USA, Team Canada, and a select few of the top AAU teams in the country.

"I had such a blast coaching at the academy back in 2019," Sorenson said. "Back then, there were four locations. This year, with only one location, the talent is much more concentrated. On the coaching front, this will be a great opportunity to connect with some outstanding coaches, including some dear friends I've known for a while, and several coaches I had the honor to work with back in 2019."

The NCAA College Basketball Academy will be led by two heavily-experienced coaches: Gary Waters and Al Skinner. Waters spent 20 years and won 365 games as a head coach at the Division I level, including time at Kent State, Rutgers, and Cleveland State. Skinner won 426 games over 26 seasons at the Division I level, including stops at Rhode Island, Boston College, and Kennesaw State.

"At the last academy, I had a chance to work with Coach Waters, former UCLA and Alabama-Birmingham Head Coach Murry Bartow, and former Penn State Head Coach Jerry Dunn," said Sorenson. "To be able to work alongside coaches of that caliber again is an opportunity I couldn't pass up."

The NCAA College Basketball Academy is the only event that NCAA Division I coaches will be able to attend during the final recruiting live period of the summer.

More information on the NCAA College Basketball Academy, including a full list of coaches selected, can be found at **thebbacademy.com**.

Northland College is an NCAA Division III institution located in Ashland, Wisconsin. The LumberJacks and LumberJills sponsor 14 varsity sports and compete in the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference, Midwest Lacrosse Conference, and the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Northland College is a private environmental liberal arts college located just blocks away from Lake Superior in Ashland, Wisconsin. Founded in 1892, the College adopted a bold new mission and made history in 1974 as the first college in the country to fully integrate an environmental focus with its liberal arts curriculum. Today, Northland College is a powerful and intimate learning community of about five hundred students from across the United States and beyond.

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