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Contact: Clare Graff, NFL
212/450-2435, clare.graff@nfl.com
Steve Alic, USA Football
703/992-8325; salic@usafootball.com

NFL AND USA FOOTBALL SELECT 100 HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACHES AND ADMINISTRATORS TO ATTEND YOUTH FOOTBALL SUMMIT

Dick Vermeil To Address Coaches At Ninth Annual Gathering In Canton, Ohio Prior To Hall Of Fame Weekend

Fifty-one top high school football coaches, one from each state and Washington, DC, have been selected by the NFL to participate in the ninth annual NFL-USA Football Youth Football Summit July 28-31 during the lead up to the 2009 Hall of Fame Weekend in Canton.

In addition to these coaches, more than 50 other supporters of youth and high school football, including 22 former NFL players now coaching, will attend the Summit, which is held at Kent State Stark Professional Education & Conference Center.

NFL coaching great **DICK VERMEIL** will address Summit participants on the impact of youth and high school football coaches on their players, while former NFL player **HARRY COLON** will speak about the importance of positive coaching. Canton native and former Chiefs QB **TODD BLACKLEDGE** also will address the group.

Leaders in the fields of sports medicine and sports psychology will present on various topics facing youth sports. **DR. LINN GOLDBERG** of Oregon Health & Science University will lead a steroid and supplement education session and discuss the NFL's ATLAS & ATHENA Anti-Steroid Education program, while **KIMBERLY WHITE, Ph.D.** of the Gatorade Sports Science Institute will address the important issues of heat and hydration. Seattle Seahawks physician **DR. STAN HERRING** will discuss the importance of concussion awareness in youth sports, and life skills coach **ZACHARY MINOR** and his acting troupe will lead attendees through interactive role-playing sessions addressing character development issues. Coaches also will participate in a session on performance training by **BILL PARISI** of the Parisi Speed School, and former Dallas Cowboys personnel chief **GIL BRANDT**, will be on hand to discuss topics vital to the continued success of youth and high school football.

Other topics at the Summit include first aid and injury prevention, recognizing talent, helping youth players to achieve their potential, handling coach-player-parent relationships and an overview of the NFL's High School Player Development Program.

USA Football, the sport's national governing body on youth and amateur levels, will lend expertise in a variety of areas for Summit participants. USA Football Executive Director **SCOTT**

HALLENBECK will share the organization's on-going work and accomplishments in leading the game's grassroots development. USA Football also will host a National Leadership Forum as part of the Summit, providing insight and best practices on topics including coaching education, youth league development and how USA Football membership benefits best serve the sport.

USA Football Chairman **CARL PETERSON**, a long-time football scout, coach and NFL team executive, and **CHUCK KYLE** of Cleveland St. Ignatius High School also will address Summit participants. Earlier this summer, Coach Kyle led USA Football's Junior National Team to a gold medal in the sport's first junior world championship in Canton's Fawcett Stadium.

USA Football conducted 32 State Leadership Forums throughout the United States this winter and spring, spanning more than two dozen states from Florida to Hawaii. One delegate from each of the 32 state forums was selected to take part in the NFL-USA Football Youth Summit to contribute to football's continued innovation and USA Football's educational resources. More than 3.0 million youngsters aged 6-14 play tackle football and more than 1.1 million boys play high school football.

The NFL and the NFL Players Association, which have made a major commitment to investing in the game with the establishment of the NFL Youth Football Fund and other programs, will fund the Summit.

High school football coaches registered for an opportunity to attend the Summit by entering a nomination and essay contest conducted by the NFL and USA Football. Coaches submitted online essays in which they wrote about their coaching careers, commitment to youth and coaching philosophies. A blue-ribbon panel, consisting of local state representatives, reviewed the essays, and 51 coaches were chosen to serve as their state's delegate at the Summit. (See below for complete list of delegates)

STATE DELEGATES FOR 2009 NFL YOUTH FOOTBALL COACHING SUMMIT

| STATE | NAME | HIGH SCHOOL |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Alabama | Tom Causey | Demopolis High School (Demopolis, AL) |
| Alaska | Dave DeVaughn | Ben Eielson High School (Eielson AFB, AK) |
| Arizona | Kelly Epley | Aqua Fria High School (Glendale, AZ) |
| Arkansas | Kevin Kelley | Pulaski Academy (Little Rock, AR) |
| California | Mike Dimino | Del Campo High School (Carmichael, CA) |
| Colorado | Tommy Grasmick | Holly High School (Johnstown, CO) |
| Connecticut | TBD | |
| Delaware | Jody Russell | Tatnall High School (Wilmington, DE) |
| District of Columbia | Robert Richards | Cardozo High School Washington |
| Florida | Mike Sonneborn | Miami Dade Christian High School (Miami, FL) |
| Georgia | Nick Davis | Riverdale High School (Riverdale, GA) |
| Hawaii | Kale Ane | Punahou School (Honolulu, HI) |
| Idaho | Todd Simis | Capital High School (Boise, ID) |
| Illinois | Randy Kuceyeski | Libertyville High School (Libertyville, IL) |
| Indiana | TBD | |
| Iowa | Greg Holland | Des Moines North High School (Altoona, IA) |
| Kansas | Bill Arnold | Hayden High School (Topeka, KS) |
| Kentucky | TBD | |
| Louisiana | Stephen Robicheaux | Destrehan High School (Destrehan, LA) |
| Maine | Stu Wyckoff | Caribou High School (Caribou, ME) |
| Maryland | Andrew Bonheyo Donald Davis | Maryland School for the Deaf (Frederick, MD) Calvert Hall College High School (Baltimore, MD) |
| Massachusetts | Peter Colombo | Brockton High School (Brockton, MA) |
| Michigan | Peter Stuursma | East Grand Rapids High School (Grand Rapids, MI) |

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| Minnesota | Dave Nelson | Minnetonka High School (Minnetonka, MN) |
| Mississippi | Lynord Crutchfield | Rosa Fort High School (Tunica, MS) |
| Missouri | Greg Reynolds | Park Hill High School (Kansas City, MO) |
| Montana | Russell McCarvel | Flathead High School (Kalispell, MT) |
| Nebraska | Andrew Means | Millard South High School (Omaha, NE) |
| Nevada | Paul Bennett | Desert Pines High School (Las Vegas, NV) |
| New Hampshire | Rod Wotton | St. Thomas Aquinas High School (Dover, NH) |
| New Jersey | Chuck Donohue | Southern Regional High School (Manahawkin, NJ) |
| New Mexico | Sammy Jernigan | Goddard High School (Roswell, NM) |
| New York | Chad DeRock | Holley High School (Holley, NY) |
| North Carolina | Paul Hoggard | Richmond County High School (Rockingham, NC) |
| North Dakota | Cory Volk | Garrison High School (Garrison, ND) |
| Ohio | Gary Jackson | John Adams High School (Cleveland, OH) |
| Oklahoma | Jeff Craig | Blanchard High School (Blanchard, OK) |
| Oregon | Randy Nyquist | West Albany High School (Albany, OR) |
| Pennsylvania | Larry Wiser | Clarion Area High School (Clarion, PA) |
| Rhode Island | Eric Anderson | South Kingstown High School (Wakefield, RI) |
| South Carolina | Rich Schrader | Woodmont High School (Piedmont, SC) |
| South Dakota | James Haskamp | Hanson High School (Alexandria, SD) |
| Tennessee | John Downtin | Cordova High School (Memphis, TN) |
| Texas | Robert Huckabee | Rockwall Heritage Christian Academy (Rockwall, TX) |
| Utah | Brandon Matich | Park City High School (Salt Lake City, UT) |
| Vermont | Mike Stone | Hartford High School (White River Junction, VT) |
| Virginia | Jeff Nelson | Bethel High School (Hampton, VA) |
| Washington | Andrew Hershey | Shorewood High School (Shoreline, WA) |
| West Virginia | Bernie Buttrey | Parkersburg High School (Parkersburg, WV) |
| Wisconsin | Eric Auel | Hillsboro High School (Hillsboro, WI) |
| Wyoming | Jay Rhoades | Douglas High School (Douglas, WY) |

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