

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 24, 2012

## Chargers women's basketball team hosts 7<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas Classic event

With the holidays almost upon us, the Camosun Chargers women's basketball program is gearing up to host its 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Classic Tournament at the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence, December 28-30.

Over the years, Camosun's holiday hardwood event has helped local basketball fans find a festive fix for their favorite sport and this year is no exception.

"We are the only college women's basketball tournament between Christmas and New Year's east of Ontario," commented Chargers Head Coach Brett Westcott. "We have been able to attract two teams from our league and one from Ontario despite the economic downturn and cutbacks in many athletic departments because teams will get competitive games in a well-run event where we can try to fit travel plans to make things work well for teams."

Spectators can expect some great hoop action at the 3-day tournament where the home team will go up against Island rivals, the VIU Mariners, PACWEST competitors, the Langara College Falcons and the Mohawk Mountaineers from the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association.

Friday, December 285:30pmVIU vs. Langara7:30pmCamosun vs. Mohawk

Saturday, December 29

5:30pmMohawk vs. VIU7:30pmLangara vs. Camosun

Sunday, December 309:00amLangara vs. Mohawk11:00amCamosun vs. VIU

"Everybody is coming off first semester exams and looking to play so they work off the rust to get ready for the return to league play in early January," said Coach Westcott. "VIU and Langara offer contrasting styles with size and good guard play from the Mariners and lots of perimeter shooting from the Falcons. I do not know much about Mohawk College, but they have a good veteran guard and a big post with lots of quick and athletic guards who will create problems for everybody they play out west."

Approaching the second half of the season, Camosun is tied with VIU and Langara in fifth place in the conference standings.

"We just want to play with some level of consistency and show we are getting better as the season moves into its next phase," said Coach Westcott. "We have seven weeks of league games to determine whether we can reach the playoffs and once we get there then things start all over for everybody. So far this season, it has been proven any of the top seven teams in the PACWEST can beat each other so just getting to Provincials gives you a chance to win a championship and all we want is a chance on our home court."

Camosun hosts the 2012-13 PACWEST Provincial Men's and Women's Basketball Championships at PISE, February 28-March 2, 2013.

-end-

For more information (including Christmas Classic scores), please contact: Brett Westcott – Head Coach Camosun College Chargers Women's Basketball Tel: 250-388-9807 Email: <u>Westcott@shaw.ca</u>