

Youth soccer players score big as they graduate from the Bank of Bermuda School of Excellence Programme

(Hamilton, Bermuda, Friday 13 July 2007) Ten of Bermuda's promising young soccer players graduated today from the week long Bank of Bermuda School of Excellence Programme, managed by Pro MISL player, David Bascome.

The ten players were selected to participate in the programme based on their leadership qualities, positive attitude and superior work rate displayed during the week long Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic held 2 July – 6 July 2007.

The School of Excellence Programme combines soccer training with a strong educational element. Under the direction of coach and schoolteacher, Mike Williams, the students were required to complete a research project on the requirements and steps one would need to take to run a sports management company successfully.

David Bascome explained, "In today's competitive environment you can no longer focus all of your energy into one area of your life, colleges and recruiters are looking for the complete package and that means it is of utmost importance that our young athletes become all-round successful people."

In the evenings, the participants were involved in aggressive training sessions, coached by David Bascome, which focused on mental and physical fitness and included core-conditioning training and ball-skills training. "To be a good player you must equally focus on your mental development, as your physical fitness will only get you so far in your overall athletic ability," explained David Bascome.

Ifor Hughes, Head of Compliance at Bank of Bermuda, said he was encouraged by the dedication and leadership portrayed by the participants, “I am confident that all of these participants will not only walk away from this programme stronger, fitter and more confident in their soccer playing ability but with a greater regard for teamwork. Bank of Bermuda recognises the importance in assisting the Island’s youth in achieving excellence both on and off the field. Today we congratulate each and every one of these participants for successfully completing a difficult and challenging week of training and hope that they will continue to be positive leaders amongst their peers.”

Graduating from the Programme:

- Beau Orchard age 12
- William White age 12
- Shakkai Trott age 12
- Rai Simmons age 12
- Kascia White age 15
- Idrees Sharrieff age 13
- Thomas Phillips age 13
- Jalen Harvey age 13
- Dante Brangman age 13
- Triston Hall age 13

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Notes to Editors:

ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME: Nine years ago we introduced the School of Excellence Programme, which combines soccer training, education and work experience. Training our youth to become reliable, responsible team players on and off the field are the objectives of the programme. Ten participants from the Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic, between the ages of 12 - 14, that show good team leadership skills and positive discipline are selected by the clinic coaches to

participate in the School of Excellence and are announced at the Pro Soccer Clinic Presentation. The School of Excellence for 2007 started on the 9 July. It involved class work from 9:00am - 10:30am, work experience from 12noon - 2:00pm and soccer training from 6pm - 8pm. The programme provides Bermuda's advanced players with an incentive to participate in the Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic, and encourages them to be role models for the younger players.

- Founded in 1889, Bank of Bermuda is the leading provider of fund administration, trust, custody, asset management and banking services in Bermuda. Since 2004 it has been a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc.
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