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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THREE MORE OF BC'S BEST FOOTBALL PLAYERS HEAD SOUTH

Harper Sherman signs with Arizona... Matt Seymour to Ohio...

(Vancouver) Two more BC High School Football stars signed their National Letters of Intent at a signing ceremony today at the BC Sports Hall of Fame. They were part of a group of three BCSSFA products who will be headed to NCAA Division One ranks for the 2015 season.

Offensive Lineman, **Harper Sherman**, from New Westminster HS has accepted a full scholarship to the **University of Arizona**. Receiver/defensive back, **Matthew Seymour**, also from New Westminster HS has signed on with **Ohio University**.

In addition, class of 2014 offensive lineman, **AJ McFarlane** from Vancouver College, will be announcing his decision in the coming weeks. McFarlane spent the past season at Phillips Academy in Massachusetts and has received multiple NCAA Div 1 FCS offers.

Of note: New Westminster Secondary is the only high school in Canada to have two members of the class of 2015 receive NCAA Div 1 football scholarships. Over the past eleven years 32 High School Football players from BC have now received NCAA Div. 1 scholarships.

Ohio University

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University of Arizona

Rich Rodriguez
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HARPER SHERMAN

New Westminster HS

OL - 6'4 ¾", 290 lbs

Sherman was one of the most sought after recruits in the history of BC High School Football and committed to Arizona in August. He first visited the campus following his sophomore season where he instantly impressed the coaches during a camp workout. Sherman received his first two NCAA offers after grade ten, another first in BC. In all he received eight Division 1 offers, and backed up the faith coaches showed in him with a dominant season for the Hyacks. In 2014, Sherman was the number one ranked offensive lineman in Canada by CFC and Top Prospects and was also a two-time provincial all-star. He becomes the 4th NWSS player to earn an NCAA Div 1 scholarship.



"I felt strongly that the University of Arizona was the right fit for me," said Sherman. "They have a winning program, a great coaching staff, reputable academics and a supportive college town. I appreciate the effort Coach Michalczik & Rodriguez made in recruiting me and I feel at home with the Wildcat family. I also want to thank the Hyack Football program for helping me achieve my goal of playing Division one football."

"We are very excited to get Harper into our program," said **Arizona offensive line coach, Jim Michalczik**. "He is very athletic for a big-bodied kid and plays the game very physical. His best days are in front of him."

"Harper has the size, athleticism and work-ethic to be a very successful Division one player," said Hyacks **Head Coach, Farhan Lalji**. "We saw following his 9th grade season that he had the potential to play at the highest level and began the process of getting him there. Whatever he was asked to do, he did much more. His character, maturity and determination are extremely rare for someone his age. We are very proud of Harper and have no doubts that he will succeed at Arizona"

Stats / Awards/ Accomplishments:

- 2014 Number one ranked offensive lineman in Canada by CanadaFootballChat.com & Top Prospects
- #2 ranked prospect in Canada by Top Prospects, #3 by CFC
- 2014 1st Team All-Canadian CFC & Top Prospects
- 2013 2nd Team All-Canadian by CFC & Top Prospects
- 2014 & 2013 AAA Provincial All Star
- 2014 & 2013 AAA Western Conference All-star
- 2014 NWSS Football Most Outstanding Lineman Award, 3-year starter & 2014 team captain
- Three-star prospect by Scout.com, ESPN & 247 Sports
- Offers received: Arizona, Cal-Berkeley, Oregon State, Washington State, Nevada, Wyoming, San Diego State, Texas-El Paso

2014 Highlights: <http://www.hudl.com/athlete/1503665/highlights/220148394>

University of Arizona Information:

- City: Tucson, AZ
- Nickname: Wildcats
- Conference: Pac 12
- 2014 overall record: 10-4 (Reached Pac 12 Championship game & Fiesta Bowl, #12 in final AP rankings)
- Largest crowd in 2014: 80,246 (at USC)
- UA Players in NFL: Rob Gronkowski (TE, New England), Nick Foles (QB, Philadelphia), Lance Briggs (LB, Chicago), Marquis Flowers (LB, Cincinnati), Mike Thomas (WR, Houston), Eben Britton (OL, Chi), Antoine Cason (DB, Carolina)

MATTHEW SEYMOUR
New Westminster High School
WR/DB - 6'1", 172 lbs

After a dominant senior season on both sides of the ball, Seymour becomes the 5th NWSS player to earn an NCAA Div 1 scholarship in the past 10 years. He has been a 3-year varsity starter for the Hyacks and set four school records this past season. Seymour received numerous scholarship offers from the top universities in Canada and drew significant interest from a number of NCAA schools. He will join fellow BCSSFA grad Maleek Irons (RB, WJ Mouat, 2014) at Ohio.



"Ohio offered everything I wanted in the classroom as well as on the field," said Seymour. "While touring the campus on my visit it felt like a place I could live for the next 5 years. After meeting with Coach Solich and Coach Dixon, and hearing what they had to say about the program and how they saw me in the future, I knew that Ohio was where I wanted to spend my collegiate career. Also without the help and support from the Hyacks program I wouldn't be where I'm at today."

Ohio plays in the highly competitive, Mid-American Conference and have played in bowl games in 4 of the past 5 seasons. **Bobcats Head coach Frank Solich** is the former head coach at the University of Nebraska. Seymour committed to Ohio during his official visit on January 25th.

"We are so excited to have Matt in our program. He not only is a great football player but he is an outstanding young man," said **Ohio secondary coach James Ward**. "He plays hard and fast and will be a playmaker for us for many years. He has good size and great speed. We love his ability to attack the football in the air and his ability to run after the catch. We want to welcome him and his family to our Bobcat family."

"Whenever we needed a big play this season Matt delivered." said **New Westminster Head Coach, Farhan Lalji**. "He combines game-breaking ability with work-ethic, character and humility. He is the best receiver/defensive back prospect our program has ever produced, and is still just scratching the surface of how good he can be."

Stats/Awards/Accomplishments:

- 2014 AAA Provincial All-star & AAA Western Conference All-star
- Number 1 ranked DB & 15th overall prospect in Canada by CanadaFootballChat.com
- 1st Team All-Canadian (CFC and Top Prospects)
- 2014 NWSS Hyack Football MVP
- 2012 NWSS Jr Varsity MVP
- Two stars on Scout.com, Northwest Top 50 prospects
- 2014 Offensive Stats: 45 rec, 769 yds, 9 TDs (all school records), 17.1 ypc, 15 rushes, 279 yds, 2 TDs
- 2014 Defensive stats: 30 tackles, 5 interceptions (2 ret TDs), 2 kick return 2 TDs
- Best 40 yd time: 4.42 (hand), 4.49 (electronic)
- Intended major at Ohio: Business Law

Statistics:

2014 Highlights: <http://www.hudl.com/athlete/1503680/highlights/171084382>

Ohio University Information:

- City: Athens, OH
- Nickname: Bobcats
- Overall record: 6-6 (Won three straight MAC titles from 2011 to 2013)
- Largest crowd in 2014: 51,910 (at Kentucky)
- OU Players in NFL: Taylor Price (WR, New England), LaVon Brazil (WR, Indianapolis), Julian Posey (DB, Miami), Landon Cohen (DL, Seattle), Eric Herman (OL, NY Giants), Michael Mitchell (DB, Carolina), Chip Cox (Montreal)