

PRESS RELEASE

Monroe-West Monroe Convention & Visitors Bureau

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State Select Soccer Team Program to ink deal with West Ham United Academy

MONROE-WEST MONROE, LA- The Louisiana Soccer Association is hosting the 2013 LSA State Select Teams College Combine Camp in Monroe June 28-30. During the camp, the LSA will unveil an official agreement with the West Ham United Academy, from London via its relationship with Global Image Sports.

“We are the first state association to do this,” said Mark Godwin, LSA Director of Coaching and Camp Director. “This will allow West Ham United to have access to players on our State Select Teams and give players to a greater opportunity to play professionally.”

The deal will officially be unveiled on Saturday, June 29 before the start of the 10:30 game at the University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) Soccer Stadium. Shaun Ramsden, with West Ham United, and Ian Bishop, a former player (of over 300 first team games) for West Ham United, will also be in attendance.

The SST College Combine Camp is made up of the best soccer players Louisiana has to offer. Tryouts begin in November of each year with 600 players competing. The field is narrowed over the following months until teams of 18-20 are formed in 5 age groups from Youth 13-17 with boys and girls teams in each.

These teams compete on the state level, and players are chosen to move on to the regional level. From there players are chosen to compete for the US National team.

“Last year, 18 players from Louisiana made the regional team,” Godwin said, the largest group in several years.

For more information on the State Select Camp, visit www.playlouisianasoccer.org or contact Mark Godwin at (225) 200-4781.

For more information on West Ham United, visit www.whufc.com or westhamunitedinternationalacademy.com

For more information on Global Image Sports, visit www.globalimagesports.com

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**Please see attached schedule for games and additional information. **