

# ***Sarthou Backstops Vancouver Selects to Champions Cup***

Kent, WA 5 May, 2009 – Evan Sarthou, goaltender for the Kent Valley Rainiers, traveled to Edmonton this past weekend and helped the Vancouver Selects capture the Champions Cup trophy. Evan was heavily recruited by Selects coach Cliff Ronning after some very memorable performances against Ronning's teams over the past several years. The Selects are forging an impressive record this Spring and establishing themselves as one of the top teams in North America. Evan has been playing with the Selects this Spring as well as the Seattle Starz.

The Selects put on an impressive display throughout the tournament and left Edmonton undefeated. Evan posted a 5-2 victory over the Saskatoon Jr. Blades and a 6-3 win against the Alberta Jr. Bears during the round-robin. Evan's strong play earned him the starting nod in the semi-final game. Ronning's decision to use the Kent Valley net minder was rewarded as Evan posted another victory against the Jr. Blades to place the Selects in the championship game. Ronning continued to play the hot hand and gave Evan the start in the finals against the NAS Blues from Edmonton. Evan was stellar in net and posted two shutout periods before being lifted at the beginning of the third with the game comfortably in hand. Evan received a standing ovation from players and parents as he took his place on the bench with his teammates and watched the Selects finish off a 5-1 victory to clinch the championship. Fellow Seattle-area player Daniel Woolfenden is also playing with the Selects this Spring and contributed to a stingy defense that helped capture the championship.

Evan enjoyed his time in Edmonton and visited the West Edmonton Mall with its water slides, amusement park and ice rink. West Edmonton Mall is the site of the annual Brick tournament where Evan's Kent Valley teammates, Carson Bergstrom and Kailer Yamamoto, competed last summer. Evan enjoyed the challenge of the competition provided by the top teams in Alberta and is looking forward to the upcoming Challenge Cup in Vancouver in May with the Starz and the North American Hockey Classic in Winnipeg in June with the Selects. Rainiers Head Coach Adam Kurtenbach is extremely proud of the performance put up by his goaltender. Evan's performance is another example that Pacific Northwest players can perform and excel at the highest levels of youth hockey. Coach Kurtenbach actively looks for opportunities for his players to enhance their development as part of other top programs throughout North America. Over the past year, Rainiers players have played with the Vancouver Vipers, Vancouver Selects, Boston Jr. Bruins, LA Hockey Club, and Anaheim Jr. Ducks, and participated in tournaments in Winnipeg, Detroit, Las Vegas, Quebec, Edmonton, and Los Angeles. Stay tuned for additional news of Evan's experience with the Selects and other Rainiers players as they compete in top North American competitions.

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