

The Colorado Springs School
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NEWS

DATE: April 10, 2009
For Release: Upon Receipt

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VOLLEYBALL PLAYER AT THE COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL SIGNS WITH DIVISION I LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY

Colorado Springs, Colo. – The Colorado Springs School (CSS) congratulates Breanna Cullity, a senior, who has committed to Long Island University (LIU), where she will receive a full athletic scholarship for the school's Division I Women's Volleyball Team. CSS will host a celebratory signing on **Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 3:30 p.m.**, with Cullity's coaches, teammates and family. The event will be held in the Louise Honnen Tutt Field House on the CSS campus. Cullity is CSS' first Division I full scholarship athlete. Breanna is the daughter of Lisa and David Cullity.

Cullity, co-captain of the volleyball team her junior year and co-captain this past year, has led the team rankings in kills and blocks and came in second in digs. Her competitive spirit keeps her fellow volleyball players pumped throughout the season, and her experience has been a valuable asset in forming a solid team. A versatile player, she has the ability to play middle and outside hitter position. She was named First Team All Black Forest League and All-State 2-A Team as a junior and this year, Cullity achieved First Team All State accolades and First Team All Tournament at the 2008 2-A Volleyball State Championship. Her proudest moment came when the team reached the final game in the



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State Championship. Despite defeat, the Kodiaks earned the distinction of Runner-Up at the 2A State Championship, the school's first-ever state appearance. Cullity entertained recruiting offers from several Division I schools, including Mississippi State, Washington State University, and Ohio State.

"I'm extremely excited for Bre to join the team at LIU and add to the Blackbird family," said Kyle Robinson, the Head Women's Volleyball Coach at LIU. "I've coached Breanna for many years and have always respected her work ethic and desire to win. She will be a great addition to not only our program but the student culture at LIU."

Kyle Robinson was the girl's volleyball coach at CSS four years ago, spent several years coaching club volleyball in Colorado Springs, and was an Assistant Coach with the Air Force Academy, before taking the position of Head Coach for Women's Volleyball at Long Island University last year. Several other local athletes will also be playing volleyball for Robinson at LIU this fall, including Kelsi Klikus from Pine Creek High School, Vanessa Gemignani from Doherty High School, and Cally Fensten from Smoky Hill High School of Aurora, Colorado.

Cullity is enthusiastic about attending LIU this fall and is considering a major in Psychology in order to become a therapist. The move from Colorado Springs to Brooklyn will certainly be a change of scenery, but Cullity sounds undaunted as she excitedly prepared for collegiate athletics and academics. Cullity has worked to balance her commitment to club volleyball with Stellar, playing for her high school team and taking a challenging college preparatory course load. Cullity transferred to CSS as a sophomore year and has loved the experience the past three years have given her. She has participated in the school's flagship Experience Centered Seminar (ECS) program, in which students take a specialized three week course every March that focus on subjects not usually covered in high schools. *The Politics of Water*, a teaching internship in a fourth grade class, and *Life and Death* were valuable learning experiences for her. Although several ECSes each year visit different states and countries, Cullity made it a priority to select local ECSes, so she could continue training and practicing volleyball. She loves the sport and teasingly calls practice her "*anger management class*," as the strenuous physical activity releases a lot of stress. As Cullity prepares to take on the challenges of college and Division I athletics, she is grateful for the lessons learned and memories made at The Colorado Springs School.

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“I formed great relationships at CSS and came to trust and really know many students. We’re a close-knit bunch,” she said. “I’m sure I’ll miss the community, but I am very excited about working with Coach Kyle Robinson again; his intense coaching style works for me. I’m looking forward to learning and growing more in the next few years.”

Media are welcome to attend the signing and may arrange photography and video needs by contacting Jessica L. James, Director of Communications, at jjames@css.org or 719-434-3506.

About Long Island University (LIU)

Long Island University, which has been providing higher education for 78 years, educates 27,000 students on six campuses across New York. LIU’s Brooklyn campus sponsors 18 men’s and women’s varsity programs that compete at the NCAA Division I level. In addition, LIU has set the academic standard for its student-athletes, who earned a cumulative GPA of 3.05 this past academic year.

About the Colorado Springs School (CSS)

CSS offers an experiential educational curriculum for Pre-Kindergarten – 12th graders. Through superior academics and mentoring, The Colorado Springs School prepares students to think independently and to meet the needs of a dynamic world with leadership, ingenuity, problem-solving skills, and personal integrity.

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