



Pedro E. Segarra
Mayor

MAYOR SEGARRA CALLS HARTFORD AND BIG EAST WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP A WINNING COMBINATION

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY STATEMENT---

(July 12, 2011) --- Hartford Mayor Pedro E. Segarra today issued this statement regarding the contract extension of the Big East Women's Basketball Championship at the XL Center in Downtown Hartford for another two years:

“The City of Hartford is proud to host the BIG EAST Women's Basketball Championship through the 2012-13 Season. This secures a decade of excellence in Connecticut's Capital City. Sports events are a great economic driver for the City; it's beneficial for our hotels and restaurants and the economic impact is more than \$2 million. Hartford will once again be ready for its close-up in the national spotlight and we look forward to showcasing our great city.”

There have been more than 900,000 fans in total game attendance in the eight years that the XL Center has hosted the tournament. The league expects its millionth fan during the course of this contract extension.

The 2012 BIG EAST Women's Basketball Championship will be held March 2-6 and the 2013 Championship will be hosted in Hartford March 8-12. All 16 BIG EAST teams will compete in the women's basketball championship in 2012, with the winner earning the conference's automatic NCAA Tournament bid.