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## TWO SIGN WITH VIKING BASKETBALL PROGRAM

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11/16/2008

The Portland State men's basketball program has signed two local players to National Letters of Intent for the 2010-11 academic year as announced by Head Coach [Tyler Geving](#) last week.

Brandon Cataldo (kuh-TALL-doe), a 6-10 center from Rainier (OR) High School, has signed with the Vikings. Cataldo is rated as the 10th best high school center in the nation by ESPN.com and the second-best high school center on the west coast by scout hoops.com.

As a junior at Rainier, Cataldo was the Player of the Year in the Lewis and Clark League and led his team to the state playoffs. Cataldo has also played for the AAU Portland Hoop Kings.

"High school posts are hard to come by and we are fortunate to get someone from our own back yard," said Geving. "Physically, I think Brandon is ready to go. The challenge for him is going to be coming from a small school (Oregon 3A) to major college basketball. But, he has fared very well on the AAU circuit against a lot of top players and held his own. That has been a good measuring stick for him."

"Brandon is a good back-to-the-basket player who can step out and shoot it. He's also a gym rat which you don't find from a lot of big guys. He is always looking to get better. He has skills and over a four-year period I expect him to be dominant big man in the Big Sky Conference."

Also signing with the Vikings, is Chehales (shuh-HAY-less ) **Tapscott**, a 6-5 sophomore forward from **Clackamas Community College**, who prepped at Century High School in Hillsboro, OR.

"Chehales is a big-time scorer and a big-time rebounder who comes from a winning program," said Geving. "He can score in a variety of ways - post up, shoot from the perimeter - and he is a great passer."

"Chehales is a really skilled player who will bring a lot of different attributes to our program."

As a freshman at Clackamas CC, **Tapscott** averaged 20.7 points, 11.7 rebounds, 2.1 assists, 2.1 blocks and 1.8 steals per game. He ranked third in the NWAACC in scoring and second in rebounding. **Tapscott** shot 59% from the field and 68% at the line and was named a Southern Region All-Star.

His team went 29-3 on the season, winning the NWAACC Southern Division with a 13-1 record as well as the NWAACC title. **Tapscott** was also named the NWAACC

Tournament Most Valuable Player.

At Century High School, **Tapscott** averaged 23 points, 12 rebounds and four assists a game as a senior. He was named first team All-State at the 5A level. **Tapscott's** team won back-to-back league titles reaching the Oregon State Tournament both seasons.

With these two signings, the Vikings already have a great start on their 2010-11 season. Geving anticipates signing more players in the spring.