



For Immediate Release  
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## **Military Families Will Attend Washington Kastles Game for The Team's Military Appreciation Night July 21**

*McLean, Va., July 20, 2010* — Military families with a special connection to ThanksUSA will attend the Washington Kastles tournament game Wednesday, July 21, as part of the team's Military Appreciation Night.

"ThanksUSA provides post-secondary scholarships for military families, and we are pleased that some members of these families can enjoy this exciting event tonight thanks to the generosity of the Kastles and Bloomberg, one of the tournament sponsors," said Michele Stork, executive director of ThanksUSA.

On this special night, the Kastles will take on the St. Louis Aces at the Kastles Stadium, City Center, 11<sup>th</sup> and H streets, N.W., in Washington, D.C.

Since its inception in 2006, the charity has awarded nearly 2,000 need-based, post-secondary school scholarships to the children and spouses of military personnel. Recipients of the awards, valued at almost \$6 million so far, have been selected from all 50 states and the District of Columbia and representing all branches of the armed services, including the National Guard and Reserve.

ThanksUSA is the brainchild of Northern Virginia's Rachel (14) and Kelsi (12) Okun, who were deeply touched by letters from troops fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. ThanksUSA was their way of helping the troops' families – raising money for educational scholarships. Kelsi Okun recently interviewed scholarship recipients during their visit to the Nation's capital; a video is attached.

Attending the Kastles Military Appreciation match and available for interviews are:

- Benjamin Page, a veteran wounded in Iraq. A former college tennis player, he remains, for now, in a wheelchair.
- Bernard and Margie McPherson, whose son Bernard II, an aspiring vocalist and songwriter, has received three ThanksUSA scholarships. Bernard Sr. is in the Army.

For details on ThanksUSA, visit [www.ThanksUSA.org](http://www.ThanksUSA.org).

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