

Department of
Physical Education and Athletics

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To Those Interested in the Growth of Lacrosse in Japan:

In September, 1986 it was my pleasure to visit Japan as a representative of The Johns Hopkins University and its lacrosse program. The purpose of my visit was to assist in promoting and developing the game of lacrosse. Through the efforts of my good friend, Norio Endo, I was able to work with a group of fifteen students from Keio University. I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to teach these young people because they were so enthusiastic, cooperative and bright - a delightful group who learned quickly.

Through the efforts of these students, who truly love playing lacrosse, the game has made rapid strides in a short period of time. In the summer of 1987 and 1988, Don Zimmerman, our Hopkins coach, and two groups of Hopkins players visited Japan and continued the instruction of the game. Coach Zimmerman has stated the level of play has improved dramatically. Sally Anderson, our Hopkins coach, also visited and instructed female students in the women's game.

A group of approximately forty-five Japanese students attended a lacrosse camp at Johns Hopkins University in August, 1988, and played several games against American players. Everyone who saw the games was impressed with the skill level of the Japanese. In fact, the Americans found it hard to believe the Japanese had been playing the game so short a period of time.

At the conclusion of my visit in 1986, I predicted that Japanese lacrosse would be represented in the 1994 World Games to be played in England. I believe that remarkable strides have been made in the past three years and my prediction will prove to be accurate.

Moral support from the Japanese business community is necessary to assist the students with the development of lacrosse. Company teams can be established for playing games in a competitive league. Access to playing fields is a prime concern in the growth of lacrosse, and assistance in this area is important.

Since lacrosse is such a fast moving, exciting game to play and watch, the sport will continue to grow. Paralleling the growth of lacrosse will be the growth in good relations between Japanese and American students. Since many of these young athletes will one day become leaders in their respective countries, the friendships developed on the lacrosse field will help foster good will between our countries.

I extend best wishes to my Japanese friends and all interested in the great game of lacrosse.

Sincerely,



Bob Scott
Director of Athletics
The Johns Hopkins University

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