



**STATE FOOTBALL CLASSIC TO BE HELD – TITLE SPONSOR
EMPOWER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION TO MAKE ANNOUNCEMENT**

(For immediate release Monday, January 25, 2010)

SYRACUSE NY – Empower Federal Credit Union will announce their title sponsorship of the *New York State High School Football Classic* at a press conference on Thursday, January 28, 10:30 a.m., at their corporate offices, 401 North Salina Street, Syracuse. The event will showcase the top high school football talent in New York State. Two teams, upstate and downstate, will compete against one another in a game on Sunday, June 6, 2010, at the Carrier Dome, Syracuse. The teams will be made up of seniors selected from among 650 New York State high school programs, which represent over 20,000 coaches and 80,000 student athletes. Coaches are Dick Diminuco, of Alden Central School District, Alden, New York, and Joe Vito, of Roosevelt High School, Long Island. Diminuco will coach the Upstate team and Vito will coach the Downstate team. Players will be outfitted by Under Armour®.

The Classic will feature the game, and a *combine* in which freshman, sophomore and junior players are tested for their athletic ability. The Classic is expected to attract 500 athletes, coaches, and their families. Athletes will arrive earlier in the week for practices.

“This is a tremendous opportunity for Central New York,” says John Wakefield, president/CEO of Empower. “Our area will be host not only to the players and coaches, but their families as well.”

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Empower Federal Credit Union To Announce Football Classic, *continued*

According to Wakefield, Empower has a strong mission to reach out to youth. “Our mission is to help young people set financial goals, and one way to learn about setting goals is to participate in sports. We are very proud to support the Classic.”

The New York State Football Classic was established by the New York State High School Football Coaches Association after the dissolution of the *New York – New Jersey All Star Football Classic* (formerly *The Governors Bowl*).

Empower Federal Credit Union is an \$800 million financial institution that serves members in Central New York and seven counties: Onondaga, Oswego, Erie, Broome, Montgomery, Chemung and Westchester. Main offices are located in Syracuse, New York. For information about this release, or about credit union membership, contact Mary Wilson, vice president of communications, 315.214-6514.

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