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HOOSIER HOSTS READY

MERRILLVILLE, IN – SNF Lodge #170 “Srbija” and the parishioners and supporters of St. Elijah Serbian Orthodox Cathedral are ready to receive the onslaught of basketball players, coaches, managers, fans and friends for the 73rd Annual SNF Basketball Tournament this weekend.

Although Merrillville has hosted the tournament several times, their approach is to treat it as if it’s the first and only chance they’ll get. “We try to look at it from the eyes of the first-time tournament player and figure out how we can impress him or her the most,” said one committee member. “And we work hard to put together both a traditional and unique program throughout the entire weekend.”

Tournament co-chairman Nick Beader has been working hard on the many facets of planning the event. “We have a great committee, and everyone does their thing.” From food to security to gyms to music, more than a year’s worth of hard work goes into making the SNF Basketball Tournament a memorable time.

This issue includes the brackets for following tournament progress. Also included are a map to help you maneuver your way around northwest Indiana and a schedule of events.

See you in Merrillville!

MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA - JUNE 8 -10



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Kusturica receives Order of Saint Sava

By Milos Rastovic

On May 12, 2012, His Holiness Serbian Patriarch IRINEJ awarded Serbian movie director Emir Kusturica with the medal of the Order of Saint Sava of the First Degree during Divine Liturgy at Saint Basil of Ostrog Church in the village of Mrkonjic, near Trebinje. Milorad Dodik, president of Republica Srpska, attended along with many local representatives.

Kusturica was awarded the medal for his contribution to preserve the Serbian identity, tradition, and culture. Kusturica said that everyone who is associated with Saint Sava can achieve an absolute pure spirit, which can save the world. He de-

scribed receiving the award as the highest point in his life of spiritual exaltation and emotion.

The medal of the Order of Saint Sava was established by Milan Obrenovic, King of Serbia, in 1883 and was previously awarded to Nikola Tesla, Novak Djokovic, Vlade Divac, Matija Beckovic, and Dejan Bodiroga, among others.

The American Srbobran, official organ of the Serb National Federation, received the medal in 2005 from His Holiness Patriarch PAVLE for consistent testimony of the Orthodox Christian faith and the preservation of the Serbian name, language, letters, culture, and tradition in the New World.

