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EIGHT L.E.A.D. AMBASSADORS SIGN COLLEGE BASEBALL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FALL 2010

ATLANTA, June 2, 2010 – L.E.A.D.(Launch. Expose. Advise. Direct.), the country’s first instructional play program for inner city youth, honored eight high school seniors who have signed college baseball scholarships.

The entire 2010 L.E.A.D. Ambassador graduating class received college baseball scholarships for fall 2010. Five L.E.A.D. Ambassadors will continue to play together at Selma University in Alabama. Parents, L.E.A.D. coaches and supporters gathered Sunday at Fox Sports Grill at Atlantic Station for a signing day ceremony that included recognition of each student athlete.

Members of the 2010 L.E.A.D. Ambassador graduating class are:

- **Demetrius Booker:** committed to Selma University
- **Brandon Brinkley:** committed to Selma University
 - **Xavier Griffin:** committed to Selma University
 - **Nick Marigny:** committed to Southern Union
- **Gensen Scott:** committed to Selma University
 - **J.T. Shaw:** committed to Jackson State
- **Chris Traylor:** committed to Selma University
- **Khirus Ware:** committed to Middle Georgia College

“We are so proud of this year’s graduating class and thrilled that all eight of these young men will be attending college with baseball scholarships,” said L.E.A.D. founder C.J. Stewart. “On milestone days like this, we want to be sure to thank the organizations, community partners, donors and L.E.A.D. alumni for the role their support plays in L.E.A.D.’s success.

“Not only has L.E.A.D.’s baseball training prepared these young men to compete at the college level, being a L.E.A.D.-trained player means they are equipped for success throughout their college experience – athletically and academically – and beyond.”

The Ambassador Program allows 18 L.E.A.D. selected and trained high school athletes to showcase their developed skill set to college programs via heavily-scouted national showcases. Alumni of the program who maintain their eligibility and volunteer with the program have the opportunity to continue professional development with L.E.A.D. during their off seasons.

Sponsors of L.E.A.D. and the Ambassador program include the Atlanta Braves and The Baseball Tomorrow Fund. The Atlanta Braves have partnered with L.E.A.D. to provide access to Jr. Braves programming as well as financial support. The Baseball Tomorrow Fund is designed to promote and enhance the growth of baseball and softball throughout the world by funding programs, field improvement and equipment purchases to encourage and maintain youth participation in baseball and softball.



Members of the 2010 L.E.A.D. Ambassador graduating class pose with L.E.A.D. founders C.J. and Kelli Stewart, Board Chairman Mike Lavelle and Eugene Heyward (representing Honorary Ambassador Jason Heyward) at the L.E.A.D. Signing Day event May 30, 2010 at Fox Sports Grill. Each member of the graduating class received a college baseball scholarship. (Left to right: Khirus Ware, J.T. Shaw, Xavier Griffin, Gensen Scott, Brandon Brinkley, Nick Marigny, Chris Traylor and Demetrius Booker; back row: C.J. Stewart, Kelli Stewart, Mike Lavelle, Eugene Heyward)



Eugene Heyward gives a commemorative pin to 2010 L.E.A.D. Ambassador graduate Demetrius Booker at the L.E.A.D. Signing Day event held May 30, 2010 at Fox Sports Grill. All eight 2010 graduating L.E.A.D. Ambassadors will attend college with baseball scholarships.

ABOUT L.E.A.D.

L.E.A.D. (Launch. Expose. Advise. Direct.) is the country's first instructional play program for inner city youth. Launched in 2007 by C.J. Stewart and his wife Kelli, the non-profit organization is aimed at positively impacting the number of inner city teens playing competitive baseball in middle and high school and preparing them to compete for college baseball scholarships. L.E.A.D. uses baseball to transform communities via the four pillars of the program: academics, athletics, service/civic engagement, exposure. Since its inception, 100 percent of L.E.A.D. Ambassadors have gone to college. Visit www.lead2legacy.org for more information and to donate through L.E.A.D.'s Giving Diamond campaign.

ABOUT C.J. STEWART

C.J. Stewart, former Chicago Cubs outfielder and a product of the Atlanta inner city, is a professional hitting instructor. He launched his for-profit business called Diamond Directors in 2000 and his list of major league players and prospects includes Jason Heyward along with Dexter Fowler of the Colorado Rockies and Tim Beckham of the Tampa Bay Rays among others.

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