



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lowe's Senior CLASS Award Names 30 NCAA® Student-Athletes to the 2010 Baseball Candidate Class

February 17, 2010 (Overland Park, KS) – Thirty NCAA® baseball student-athletes who excel both on and off the field were tabbed as candidates today for the 2010 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award. To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be classified as an NCAA Division I senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence – classroom, character, community and competition. The complete list of candidates follows this release.

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*™, the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award focuses on the total student-athlete and encourages students to use their platform in athletics to make a positive impact as leaders in their communities.

This year's candidate class includes 12 student-athletes on teams ranked in Collegiate Baseball magazine's preseason top 40 poll and seven players tabbed as preseason All-Americans by the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association. Twelve of the candidates carry a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or better, with one recording a perfect 4.0.

Lowe's, an official Corporate Partner of the NCAA, will announce the Senior CLASS Award™ winner at the NCAA College World Series® in June.

The 30 candidates will be narrowed to 10 finalists midway through the regular season, and those 10 names will be placed on the official ballot. Ballots will be distributed through a nationwide voting system to media, coaches and fans, who will select one finalist who best exemplifies excellence in the four Cs of classroom, character, community and competition.

"The candidates for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award in baseball are fulfilling a commitment to their universities and, at the same time, representing those schools in the community," said Tom Lamb, Lowe's senior vice president of marketing. "They have recognized the value of both a college degree and public service while taking advantage of the opportunity to play the game they love."

This marks the fourth year for the baseball division of the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award. The University of Alabama's **Emeel Salem** was the inaugural winner in 2007, Rice University's **Cole St. Clair** was the recipient in 2008 and the University of Florida's **Brandon McArthur** took home the award in 2009.

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ABOUT THE AWARD

An acronym for *Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School*[™], the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award honors the attributes of senior student-athletes in four areas: classroom, community, character and competition. The award program is designed exclusively for college seniors who are utilizing their complete athletic eligibility, remaining committed to their university and pursuing the many rewards that a senior season can bring.

Sportscaster **Dick Enberg**, Honorary Chairman of the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award, first conceived the idea of an award for seniors in 2001 in response to the growing trend of men's basketball players leaving school early for the NBA. The award program has expanded the past two years to include a total of nine NCAA[®] Division I sports – football, men's and women's soccer, men's ice hockey, men's lacrosse, baseball and softball in addition to men's and women's basketball. The award is sponsored by Lowe's, an official Corporate Partner of the NCAA[®], and managed by Premier Sports Management. For more information, visit www.seniorCLASSaward.com.

ABOUT LOWE'S

With fiscal year 2008 sales of \$48.2 billion, Lowe's Companies, Inc. is a FORTUNE[®] 50 company that serves approximately 14 million customers a week at more than 1,675 home improvement stores in the United States and Canada. Founded in 1946 and based in Mooresville, N.C., Lowe's is the second-largest home improvement retailer in the world. For more information, visit Lowe.com.

ABOUT THE NCAA

The NCAA is a membership-led nonprofit association of colleges and universities committed to supporting academic and athletics opportunities for more than 400,000 student-athletes at more than 1,000 member colleges and universities. Each year, more than 54,000 student-athletes compete in NCAA championships in Divisions I, II and III sports. Visit www.NCAA.org and www.NCAA.com for more details about the Association.

2010 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award Baseball Candidates

Name	Position	School
DJ Belfonte	Outfield	Nebraska
Daniel Bibona	Pitcher	UC Irvine
Shane Brown	Outfield	Central Florida
Stephen Cardullo	Shortstop	Florida State
Ian Choy	Outfield/Designated Hitter	Canisius
Wes Cunningham	First Base	Murray State
Devon Dageford	Outfield	Louisiana Tech
Blake Dean	First Base	LSU
Mike Donato	Outfield	Massachusetts
Michael Fabiaschi	Second Base	James Madison
Jeremy Gould	Pitcher/Utility	Duke
Clay Jones	First Base	Alabama
Jim Klocke	Catcher/Pitcher	Southeast Missouri State
Cory Kovanda	Second Base	Ohio State
Francis Larson	Catcher	UC Irvine
Drew Lee	Shortstop/Second Base	Morehead State
Tyler Lyons	Pitcher	Oklahoma State
Clint McKeever	First Base	Wichita State
Russell Moldenhauer	Designated Hitter/Outfield	Texas
Kevin Nieto	Outfield	Manhattan
Matt Payton	Infield	Western Kentucky
Eric Pettis	Pitcher	UC Irvine
Tony Plagman	First Base	Georgia Tech
Derek Poppert	Shortstop	San Francisco
Kenneth Roberts	Pitcher	Middle Tennessee
Kyle Roller	Designated Hitter/First Base	East Carolina
Mike Sadders	Infield	New Mexico State
Josh Spence	Pitcher	Arizona State
David Towarnicky	First Base	Appalachian State
Corey Valine	Third Base/Catcher	San Jose State