**Q&A with LSU commit and 2013 OF, Jake Fraley**



May 7 – When a player chooses a school it usually presides within decent drivable distance from their home address. But when 2013 OF, Jake Fraley chose his college a car ride was probably not the prefered mode of travel. Dynamic Baseball caught up with Jake recently and as you see the one question know one needs to ask when you commit to a program like LSU is how good that player is.

*Dynamic Baseball*: “Let’s get the question everyone has probably asked time and time again. Why LSU?”

*Jake:* “Why not, LSU? LSU is one of the best college baseball programs in the country, and the most successful over the past 10 years! I visited a lot of other colleges and talked with all of their coaches during the summer and fall of 2011. During my visit to LSU I was so impressed with the time that all four coaches spent with me and my parents. We talked about baseball of course, but also life, academics, and my family. LSU is so far from Delaware, however my parents and I all felt the same after leaving Baton Rouge- that if I decided to attend LSU and play baseball there, I would be well taken care of both on and off the field. The coaches would become my Louisiana parents!”

*Dynamic Baseball:* “How did a program like LSU or other college programs come to know about Jake Fraley?”

*Jake:* “Most of my exposure to these schools was through the Canes Baseball organization. Playing for the Canes placed me in front of many of the top baseball colleges across the country. The Canes schedule allowed me to play in many different showcases up and down the East Coast. The LSU scouting coach saw me play at the Perfect Game Junior National showcase held in Fort Myers, FL.”

*Dynamic Baseball:* “You talked about the PG Junior National Showcase in FL. What other goals do you have as far as attending prestigious events such as that one?”

*Jake:* “I have attended the Perfect Game Jr. National Showcase in Fort Myers, Florida. I also attended the 2013 National Games in San Diego, California. Recently I have gotten invites to the National Showcase in Minnesota and the East Coast Pro showcase in Virginia. I will also be attending an Under Armour Team one showcase later this year in hopes of making a team to play in the Under Armour All-American game to be played at Wrigley Field in Chicago, IL. This year I would be really happy if I would be named to an All American team. I just want my hard work to be recognized!

*Dynamic Baseball*: “Talk about the role that attending Red Lion Christian Academy has played in your

development as a player and a person.”

*Jake:* “Red Lion Christian Academy (RLCA) has played a big role in my life; not only with academics but also with baseball and religion. RLCA’s small sized classrooms and dedicated staff have helped me excel in the classroom. I have taken honors classes in my sophomore and Junior year and will continue to do so in my senior year. Additionally, I have maintained high or second honors every semester and was recently inducted into the Nation Honor Society. Playing baseball for a small Christian high school has enabled me to become a leader both on and off the field. Going to school here has also helped me grow closer to God. Although I have always attended church with my family, it was not until I started attending Red Lion that I began having a relationship with God. This is so important to me, after all God is the reason I am playing this game and who I am playing for every single time I step on that baseball field.”

*Dynamic Baseball*: “Who were the mentors and instructors that played the biggest role in your development?”

*Jake:* “The best mentor and instructor I have worked with over the years is my Dad. He has taught me so much from when I was five to where I am today. As I travel the country playing baseball I always get asked who my hitting instructor is or who my speed coach is- and every time I answer the same—my dad! My dad, my instructor, my worst critic, my mentor- my dad! My dad, by far was the biggest influence throughout my entire career so far. My dad has taught me how to throw, how to hit, how to watch the pitcher, how to have a solid work ethic and how to respect the game. In addition both of my parents have done so much for me. They have sacrificed time and money to make sure I get to where I need to be in order to accomplish my goals. I do have two other mentors that I talk to regularly. They just talk to me about how to get better and how to keep a humble mind and to always think that there is someone else out there working just as hard, if not harder than me. Those two people are Adam Christ, and Connor McGhee. Coach Adam was my coach when I was 11. Unfortunately after that year he got married and moved back to Minnesota, so know I only get to talk with him. Coach Adam has a great personality and just knows how to always instruct me in a way that I understand. He picks up on the little things that I never even think about. Coach Connor is another person that I look up to and respect. He knows so much about the game. He coaches me not only about baseball but also about life.

*Dynamic Baseball:* “This might be asking the obvious but here goes. What’s the overall goal for Jake Fraley?”

*Jake:* “My overall goal as an athlete is to get to the biggest stage in baseball, the MLB. I work hard every day for that reason. I just have to continue having faith in God and hopefully all the pieces will fall into place. It is pretty cool when I think about how far I have already come with baseball. Never in a million years would I have thought that the kid who at 7 years old that stood in the outfield swatting flies and playing with the grass would be having major college baseball programs recruiting him or having a feature article written about him. I am just kid from Delaware who loves to play baseball. I love the game and respect the game and I hope that when people talk about me that is what they say. Now I can only continue working and just hope one day soon all the pieces to my dream will fall into place.”