



## ADIDAS SIGNS FIVE OF THE FASTEST NFL PROSPECTS

**PORTLAND, Ore. – March 16, 2011** – adidas today announced partnerships with five top NFL prospects including defensive back Prince Amukamara of Nebraska, running back DeMarco Murray of Oklahoma, wide receiver Titus Young of Boise State, tight end Kyle Rudolph of Notre Dame and wide receiver Jerrel Jernigan of Troy.

The NFL prospects will be featured in adidas' marketing efforts and will wear the three stripes on the gridiron along with Eric Berry of the Kansas City Chiefs, C.J. Spiller of the Buffalo Bills, Reggie Bush of the New Orleans Saints, Mario Williams of the Houston Texans and Lawrence Timmons of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

"Our NFL prospects include the fastest and most versatile players in the nation," said Mark Daniels, director of football for adidas America. "These athletes will make immediate impacts as rookies and we want to help them play even faster by outfitting them in the best cleats."

Prince Amukamara was the cornerstone of the Nebraska secondary the last four years and finished his career as a first-team All-American, Jim Thorpe Award finalist and the Big 12's Defensive Player of the Year. One of the top defensive prospects in the nation, Amukamara displayed his lightning speed and athleticism at the NFL Combine in February, with top-5 showings in the 40-yard-dash, broad jump and vertical leap.

"When I'm in man coverage or zone, I need a lightweight cleat that let's me close quickly to jump underneath routes and tackle receivers," said the Nebraska All-American, Amukamara. "I've tried out the new adiZero 5-Star and they are so light that it feels like I'm not even wearing a cleat. But it also gives me the support I need to make quick cuts and start and stop on a dime."

After four years at Oklahoma, DeMarco Murray leaves with his name etched in the Sooners record books. The versatile running back owns the OU career records for all-purpose yards, touchdowns and receiving yards by a running back. Murray's size, speed and strength were on display for scouts at the NFL Combine, where the 6'0" 213 lb. ran the 40-yard-dash in the low 4.4 range and showed off his great burst, top end speed and incredible pass-catching ability.

"My game is all about speed and versatility," said the All-Big 12 selection Murray. "Whether I am running in between the tackles or catching a pass out of the backfield, the adiZero 5-Star is the perfect cleat for my style of play because it is super light but also gives me great traction and support."

A three-time first-team All-WAC selection at Boise State, Titus Young finished his career as the school's all-time leading receiver with more than 3,000 yards. As a senior, the speedy receiver/kick returner set a school record for single season receiving yards, finished second in school history in career receptions and fourth in career touchdowns. Young showcased his game changing speed at the NFL Combine with 40-yard-dash times in the low 4.4 range.

"I signed with adidas for the adiZero 5-Star," said Young. "I consider myself to be one of the fastest players in the country, but wearing the adiZero 5-Star in the NFL will take my speed to an even higher level."



One of the top tight ends in the nation, Kyle Rudolph was a semifinalist in 2009 and 2010 for the John Mackey Award, presented annually to college football's top tight end. After three seasons at Notre Dame, the 6'6", 265-pounder left South Bend with the fourth-most receptions and receiving yards by an Irish tight end in school history. Rudolph's height, strength, catching ability and body control make him one of the top tight end prospects in the country.

One of the fastest and most versatile players in the country, Jerrel Jernigan saw action this season at four different positions - quarterback, wide receiver, punt returner and kick returner. After four years at Troy, Jernigan leaves owning Sun Belt Conference and school records for receiving yards, all-purpose yards and receptions. At Troy's Pro Day, the speedster Jernigan ran blazing 40-yard-dash times in the low 4.3 range.

Football players and fans can visit [www.facebook.com/adidasfootballUS](http://www.facebook.com/adidasfootballUS) for more information, photos and videos of adidas' NFL prospects.

adidas Football develops high-performance and lightweight football cleats, apparel and accessories for some of the greatest players and teams in the game including more than 70 collegiate football programs. adidas is a global designer and developer of athletic footwear, apparel and accessories with the mission to be the leading sports brand in the world.

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