DETROIT COUNTRY DAY RETIRES SHANE BATTIER’S JERSEY

BEVERLY HILLS, Mich., September 11, 2007 – Detroit Country Day School (DCDS) will retire NBA star and DCDS alum Shane Battier’s basketball number, 55. Battier graduated from Detroit Country Day School in 1997 and went on to play basketball for the Blue Devils at Duke University where he led the team to two Final Fours, in 1999 and 2001. In 2001 Duke won the national championship by defeating the Arizona Wildcats, and subsequently had his jersey number 31 retired. Battier was selected by the Memphis Grizzlies with the sixth pick of the first round of the 2001 NBA Draft. The six-foot-eight-inch small forward currently plays for the Houston Rockets.

Quote from Glen

While a member of the DCDS varsity basketball team, Battier led the team to three Michigan State Basketball titles and was one of the most decorated high school basketball players in Michigan state history. His senior year, Battier averaged…fill in from Kurt a game. A few of his honors include being named 1997 “Mr. Basketball of Michigan,” and fill in from Kurt. He will be the second athlete to have his jersey retired in Detroit Country Day’s history. The first was Chris Webber in 2005.
“Shane Battier epitomizes the scholar athlete tradition that we are so very proud of here at Country Day,” said DCDS Varsity Basketball Coach and Upper School Athletic Director Kurt Keener. “Everyone knows of his exploits on the basketball court where he led us to three state championships (1995, 1996, 1997), but he also received top academic honors of Suma Cum Laude all four years at Country Day.”

Speakers at today’s event included Country Day Headmaster Glen P. Shilling, Upper School Athletic Director and Battier’s former high school basketball coach Kurt Keener, Frank Orlando, Battier’s baseball coach, DCDS Media Specialist Carol Keeler and Battier’s former history teacher Don Corwin. Also in attendance were members of Battier’s family, his friends and some of his DCDS basketball teammates.

Detroit Country Day is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory school offering a liberal arts pre-kindergarten through 12th grade education. Founded in 1914, the school provides a foundation for lifelong learning within an environment of educational excellence and cultural diversity. Detroit Country Day (www.dcds.edu) serves more than 1,600 students on its four Birmingham/Beverly Hills-area campuses.

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