

Sports & Entertainment

D1 Training hosts elite summit with Manning Passing Academy

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NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 9, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- D1 Training, a leading fitness and enrichment concept that utilizes the five core tenets of athletic-based training to help people of all ages, from youth athletes to fitness-minded adults, once again proved its commitment to franchisee success by investing in their most powerful asset: their people. More than 150 coaches, general managers, franchise owners, and home office leaders gathered in New Orleans for the annual D1 Coach Summit, held in tandem with the prestigious Manning Passing Academy (MPA) – hosted by **Peyton and Eli Manning**.

A Masterclass in Investing in People, D1 Elevates Franchisee Support and Long-Term Impact – On and Off the Field

Representatives from more than 50 D1 locations nationwide came together for elite-level training, inspiration, and connection – all with the purpose of strengthening the D1 system and further impacting the lives of athletes they serve.

"For us, performance starts with people," said Will Bartholomew, CEO of D1 Training. "We know that if we help our franchisees invest in their coaches, we help drive stronger performance and our athletes thrive. That's what the D1 Coach Summit is all about."

For the 16th consecutive year, D1 Training was honored to lead the official on-field warmup for the Manning Passing Academy, which hosted 1,400+ youth football players and 40+ of the country's top college quarterbacks, including **Arch Manning, LaNorris Sellers, and Cade Klubnik**. D1's presence at the MPA – surrounded by NFL coaches, general managers, and media – demonstrates the brand's high-caliber approach to training and

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The Summit included hands-on workshops, breakout sessions, and powerful keynotes from industry leaders who have both shaped and been shaped by D1 Training:

- **Kurt Hester**, Director of Strength and Performance at the University of Houston and former D1 National Director of Training, shared a deeply moving session on perseverance as he continues his fight against Stage 4 cancer.
- **Donald Scott**, two-time Olympic triple jumper and coach at D1 Gainesville, helped lead sprint and speed drills at MPA and shared his athletic journey: "This was my first D1 Coach Summit, and I learned a lot about the brand and from my fellow

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coaches. It was great to be able to share my athletic journey too." • **Clif Marshall**, renowned performance coach and former Indiana Basketball Director of Athletic Performance, shared his journey and impact, and was deeply inspired by the Summit: "The D1 Coach Summit had a great impact on me because I got to meet a legend in our profession – Kurt Hester. I love how he coaches with an eternal mindset." As part of D1's commitment to celebrating excellence system-wide, the event also included an awards ceremony held at the New Orleans Saints practice facility. The awards recognize standout coaches and locations across the country.

The Coach Summit stands as a unique differentiator in the franchise and fitness industries – few brands go to this level to elevate the people on the ground who are delivering on the brand promise every day.

"Supporting franchisee success doesn't stop at business systems or marketing; true support means helping invest in their teams," added Dan Murphy, Chief Operating Officer of D1 Training. "That's what this event is about – building a stronger future by developing stronger people."

As D1 Training celebrates its 150th location milestone, the brand continues to double down on its mission to redefine training, one athlete and one coach at a time

The industry remains strong as ever, with an untapped growth potential in scholastic training. The competitive landscape of youth sports is ever changing and having access to a place like D1 – where young athletes can hone their skills – is becoming increasingly important. This paired with D1's adult and personal training programs provides an unmatched opportunity.

For more information on D1 Training and franchise opportunities, please visit www.d1franchise.com.

About D1 Training
Founded in 2001 by former NFL player **Will Bartholomew**, and based in Nashville, D1 Training is positively impacting the lives of 30,000 athletes of all ages. With 150+ locations nationwide, and 200+ more franchises in various stages of development, D1 is one of the fastest growing private companies in the nation. D1's 5-Star Training System is trusted by top athletes because it trains the whole body: no fads, no shortcuts. For more information on D1 Training and franchise opportunities, please visit D1training.com.

Photo Highlights: Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders and enthusiastic supporters open brand new Special Olympics Arkansas in North Little Rock,



Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders, CEO of Special Olympics Arkansas Terri Weir, and other supporters cut the ribbon at Special Olympics Arkansas' new headquarters in North Little Rock on Monday, July 7th.



Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders and Mayor of North Little Rock, Terri Hartwick, take photos with Special Olympics Arkansas athletes at Special Olympics Arkansas' new headquarters in North Little Rock on Monday, July 7th.

Photos/Courtesy: Governor Sanders' Office



Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders takes a tour of Special Olympics Arkansas' new headquarters with Special Olympics Arkansas athlete, Nathan McClain, in North Little Rock on Monday, July 7th.

Harlem Globetrotters to host first open player tryouts for Centennial Season... from sports page 1

Globetrotters & Herschend Entertainment Studios. "While the tryout will be open, and we welcome athletes from all walks of life to join us, this is a serious competition that will combine high-level athleticism, opportunities for fair compensation, player revenue opportunities via sales royalties, content opportunities via our distribution partners, community impact through our

CSR efforts, and a rare opportunity to take advantage of all the creative assets we have built to literally expand one's career beyond the game. The right athletes will have that special element of 'showpersonship' that the Globetrotters have been known for. It should make for a fun and exciting way to uncover our next group of stars." This past year Globetrotter ath-

letes again set a new bar for excellence on and off the court, bringing their talents to 50 markets around the world and an additional 46 cities in North America. Athletes set 18 new Guinness World Records, the second-most in one season in their history.

The Globetrotters anticipate bringing in approximately 30 athletes to the tryout. It will be

the first step of a months-long process in selecting the athletes for the Centennial team.

The Globetrotters legacy has seen athletes ranging from Wilt Chamberlain to Connie Hawkins to Oliver Miller to Lynette Woodward throughout its history, and the goal is to make sure that talent and legacy go hand in hand into this next stage of growth.

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