

THE ALL-STAR

Official Newsletter of the Illinois High School Baseball Coaches Association



Winter 2007-08

News and Notes

Hall of Fame Speakers

The IHSBCA is proud to have two of its Hall of Fame members, Irish O'Reilly and Tony D'Anza, speaking at this year's clinic. Together these well-respected men have an amazing 75 years of coaching experience under their belts.

This clinic is special for O'Reilly in that he will be speaking on the same subject, the pick-off move, as he did the first time he presented at the IHSBCA clinic exactly 30 years ago!

Mizuno Sponsorship

Mizuno, the official footwear and baseball gear of the IHSBCA, recently inked a deal to become the sponsor of the Kaiser Game this year. The IHSBCA encourages all its members to support our sponsors.

Important Dates

Wednesday, Jan 16—Monthly meeting/mini-clinic at Home Run Inn in Darien at 8:00 p.m.

May 22—All-Area Night at U.S. Cellular Field

June 6 & 7—State Finals at Joliet Jackhammers Stadium

July 8—Kasier Game at UIC at 7:00 p.m.

U of K skipper to headline all-star line-up of speakers

IHSBCA Clinic Director Chuck Gandolfi (Carmel H.S.) has put together yet another outstanding line-up for the 2008 IHSBCA Clinic that will be held at White Sox Training Academy.

The headlining speaker will be University of Kentucky head coach John Cohen, who is nationally recognized as one of the top hitting instructors in collegiate baseball. Coach Cohen has been at the helm of the Wildcats since 2004, and in that time his teams have garnered several U of K records including the most wins in a season (44) and its first SEC Championship in 2006.

Cohen has also earned several prestigious individual honors including College Baseball Foundation National Coach of the Year in 2006, SEC Coach of the Year in 2006, and Southland Conference Coach of the Year in 1998 and 2001.

Also on tap for the week-end is the annual Hall of Fame dinner on Saturday evening at Bobak's Signature Events & Conference Center at Seven Bridges. Class of 2007-8 inductees include Chuck Gandolfi (Carmel), Ron Zagorski (Shurz/Niles North), Fred Bencriscutto (Dundee-Crown), Gil Bernard (Mt. Vernon), Tom Meyers (Lake Forest), and Dave Rowell (West Aurora).

The following is a detailed schedule of speakers and topics:

Friday, February 1

4:30-5:45 p.m.

Registration / Exhibitor Visitation

5:45-6:25

Doug Sutor (Sandburg High School) and Dustin E. Nail (Columbia High School)
Table of Champions—Drills and Skills

6:25-6:50

Tony D'Anza (St. Xavier University and IHSBCA Hall of Fame Member)
Outfield Fundamentals and Drills

6:50-7:10

Exhibitor Visitation

7:15-8:00

John Cohen (University of Kentucky)
Drills to Help You Find Your Best Swing

8:00-8:10

IHSBCA Announcements and Discussions

8:10-9:00

John Cohen (University of Kentucky)
Evaluating Your Talent and Recruiting

9:00-11:00

IHSBCA Hot Stove Coaches Appreciation Reception

Saturday, February 2

7:00-8:15

Registration / Exhibitor Visitation

8:15-9:00

John Cohen (University of Kentucky)
Creating the Big Inning

9:00-9:25

Sean McDermott (University of Illinois-Chicago)
Cut-off and Relay System to Fit Your Personnel

9:25-9:55

John Russo (Vermont Mountaineers)
Stealing Bases to Steal Some Wins

9:55-10:00

IHSBCA Awards

10:00-10:25

Irish O'Reilly (ABCA and IHSBCA Hall of Fame Member)
Holding Runners & The Left-handed Pick Off Move

10:25-10:50

Sean McDermott (University of Illinois-Chicago)
Offensive Philosophy Used at UIC

10:50-11:00

IHSBCA Awards and Announcements

11:00-11:45

Rex Sanders (Texas AM High School)
Defensive Practice Organization

11:45-1:00

Lunch and 50/50 Raffle Exhibitor Visitation

1:00-1:45

Larry Monroe (Chicago White Sox)
The Major League Sinker, Slider, Curve, and Change

1:45-2:30

Jack Perconte (Former Major Leaguer)
Two Strike Hitting Approach and Drills

2:30-3:15

Cliff Brown (Chicago White Sox)
Catching Fundamentals and Drills

3:15

IHSA Rules Interpretation Meeting

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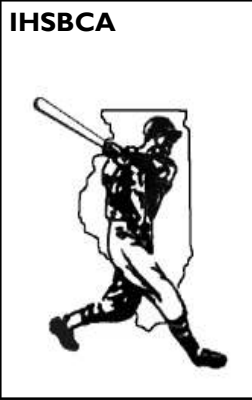


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The IHSBCA would once again like to thank all of the exhibitors for their support and attendance in making this one of the finest state association clinics throughout the country. A special thanks goes out to **DIAMOND SPORTS** and **SANTO SPORTS STORE** for their yearly sponsorship of the clinic folder. Clinic t-shirts are provided through a co-op agreement with Speedline and Hayden's Sports.



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Recent Milestones in Victories

<u>Coach</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Wins</u>
Ken Jenkins	Putnam County	500
Gene Cahan	Crete-Monee	300
Tim Funkhouser	Edwardsville	300
Dean Stavrakas	Lake View	300
Ross Giusti	Prospect	200
Brian Hurry	Mt. Carmel	200
Jared Voss	Joliet Catholic	200
Tim Kratochvil	Taylorville	100
Bob Kostuch	Notre Dame	100
Jason Portz	O'Fallon	100
Todd Sippel	Homewood-Flossmoor	100

Coaching Milestones Form

The IHSBCA would like to recognize high school and college head coaches who have recently reached a milestone in career wins (ie. 100, 200, 300, etc.) The names of these individuals will be published in our next newsletter. If you reached a milestone in the spring of 2007, please fill out the following form and mail it to the address listed below.

Milestone Victory #: _____

of Years Coaching: _____

Name of Coach: _____

Present School: _____

Mail to:
 Reavis High School
 Attn: Don Erickson
 6034 W. 77th Street
 Burbank, IL 60459