

Collegiate Baseball

The Voice Of Amateur Baseball

Started In 1958 At The Request Of Our Nation's Baseball Coaches

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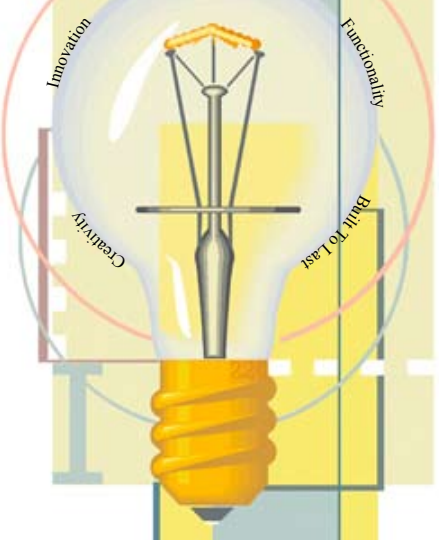
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\$4.00

New Inventions Are Simply Amazing

2017 Winners Best Of Show

Awarded By Collegiate Baseball



Anaheim ABCA Convention

16 unique products are tremendous advances for game of baseball.

By LOU PAVLOVICH, JR.
Editor/Collegiate Baseball

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Sixteen innovative products at the recent American Baseball Coaches Association convention trade show in Anaheim were awarded Best of Show certificates by *Collegiate Baseball*.

There were 71 nominations submitted to *Collegiate Baseball* for the contest which showcases the top new baseball products of 2016.

The 73rd ABCA Convention in Anaheim featured 309 companies that exhibited their products.

Now in its 18th year, the Best of Show awards from *Collegiate Baseball* encompass a wide variety of concepts and applications that are new to baseball.

See AMAZING, NEW, Page 5



REMARKABLE PRODUCT — Dr. Peter Fadde (left) and Matt Borgschulte of gameSense Sports have developed a unique pitch recognition training system. It is one of 16 impressive products named Best of Show by *Collegiate Baseball* at the recent ABCA trade show in Anaheim, Calif.

NCAA Rules Committee Hit With Numerous Complaints Over 'Hot Bats'

Illegal Bat Tampering Rears Its Head Once Again



Rules body looks at taking away 365 days of eligibility for cheaters in games.

By LOU PAVLOVICH, JR.
Editor/Collegiate Baseball

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Illegal bat tampering has reared its ugly head once again in college baseball, according to Elvis Dominguez, chairman of the NCAA Baseball Rules Committee.

During a 2017 NCAA Rules presentation for NCAA Division I, II and III coaches at the recent American Baseball Coaches Association Convention in Anaheim, Calif., Dominguez said that an unusually high number of people reported illegal bats being used during the 2016 season which alarmed the Rules Committee.

"I was on the NCAA Rules Committee back in 2008 when we began formulating plans to use the current BBCOR specification bats on the market," said Dominguez.

"Once the regulations went into effect for these bats, we thought

the problem of high performance bats was over. But last season, the Rules Committee got more calls than we ever expected on players utilizing illegal bats that had been rolled or had the barrels shaved for more trampoline effect.

"In some cases, you were seeing 6-7 batters from the same team using the exact same bat which is a telltale sign that an illegal bat was being used.

"When we got to the College World Series where bat testing is utilized, a number of bats (20) did not pass and were taken out of play before the CWS started.

"Because of this, we need to test bats well before the College World Series so the right teams make it to Omaha without an illegal advantage. We are proposing testing just before Regions and Super Regionals for 2017.

"Currently, there are three conferences that will utilize bat testing during the season in the Southeastern Conference, Big 12 and Missouri Valley."

The company that sells this portable NCAA approved bat testing device is LV Sports from Moscow, Idaho at a cost of \$1,350. For more information, go to their

web site at: barrelcompression.com/purchase

"To stop this problem, we would prefer every conference in NCAA baseball on the Division I level test bats. But we can't make everyone do it this year.

"Before we make it mandatory for all, we must see if the \$1,350 cost of purchasing these machines is doable for conferences on the Division II and III levels. Any time you have a cost associated with a rule, you must be very careful you don't mandate it across the board without some research."

Dominguez said that if a player is found using an illegal, tampered bat made for higher performance, the Rules Committee is exploring serious consequences for those actions.

"If a young man is found to have taken steroids, he will lose 365 days of eligibility for a first offense from the date of the test.

"Several members of the Rules Committee feel such a penalty might not be out of line for a player caught using an illegal, high performing bat. I can tell you that members of the Baseball

See HOT BATS, Page 9

INSIDE COLLEGIATE BASEBALL

Web Site: www.baseballnews.com

Special High School Section
Pre-Season All-Americans, 2017
state-by-state list of top players,
top 30 teams listed/Pages 16-26

Tricks Of The Trade In Baseball
Part 2 delves into many of the
unique things coaches have found
in building great programs/Page 2

Remarkable Pitching Coach
Jason Dietrich of Oregon has
a unique system that produces
precision strike throwers/Page 14

Amazing, New Products Will Help Baseball

Continued From Page 1

Beyond closely examining each nomination that came in, the selection committee spent more than 20 hours evaluating products in the exhibit hall.

A number of superb products just missed being named winners.

Here are the winners, chosen by *Collegiate Baseball's* Best of Show selection committee.

gameSense Pitch IQ

Pitch recognition is integral to hitting.

Yet traditionally, the only way to train it was to get quality at-bats.

And as we know, quality at-bats are in short supply.

Thanks to the innovation of gameSense Sports, you now can train and test pitch recognition.

Not only can you sit on the couch and become a better hitter, coaches can integrate this company's pitch recognition drills and App into their cage, tee and stand in drills.

In working with some of the top college and professional teams, they all noticed a significant impact from training so far (increased walks, better hitting numbers and decreased strikeouts).

Their pitch recognition test and training allows players and coaches the ability to track improvement and compare player scores with others which is ideal for player development and scouting.

Dr. Peter Fadde has been working on the development of video occlusion training for baseball for the past decade.

According to Dr. Fadde, hitters begin seeing improvement in pitch recognition within 2-3 weeks.

Individuals can access their complete stats for \$24.99 a month or \$239.99 a year. Team prices are also available.

For more information, go to their web site at www.gamesensesports.com or contact Tom Pardikes at drpardikes@gmail.com

Distraction Helmet

For years, football has integrated distraction into practices to simulate opposing stadiums with 60,000-plus people screaming everything you can imagine via thunderous sounds from huge speakers.

There are some systems that even utilize the horrible sound of babies crying throughout practices on these devices.

It was only a matter of time before a product was made for baseball.

Enter The Hitter's CODE Distraction Helmet.

This helmet incorporates visual and audible distraction elements.

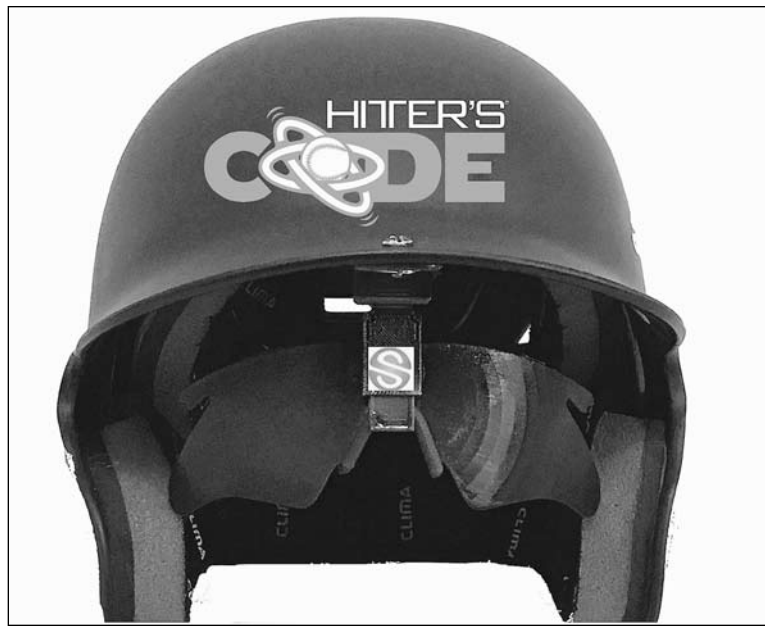
By varying what the hitter "sees" and "hears," this device can simulate the stressors of in-game environments.

From a visual perspective, the lens strobes at different rates, reducing the visual information available to the hitter. After training with strobing lens, the effect is that the baseball appears to be clearer. Players comment that the laces are easier to see, and the ball is easier to pick up from the pitcher's hand.

From an audio perspective, the helmet is further unique in that it delivers prescribed information to the hitter. Hitters generally have one to three key phrases that effect their performance such as "stay back," "look fastball," or "breath" and so on.

The helmet's bluetooth connectivity and wireless ear pieces make delivering and changing those key messages a simple process.

Additionally, the helmet transmits "distraction tracks" which are



The Hitter's CODE Distraction Helmet

designed to upset the player's focus and rhythm while allowing him to prepare for in-game distractions.

There is a definite training methodology used with this helmet which begins with nurturing audio and escalates to a G-rated, yet unfriendly environment (loud crowd noise).

Strobe flash rate, audio enhancement and distractions are

controlled by the coach, parent or mature player.

It is a fascinating new invention which should help many baseball players perform at an even higher level.

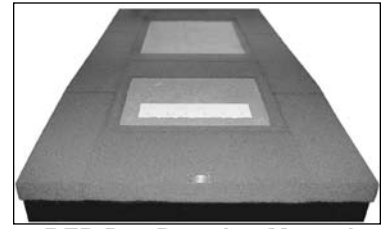
The helmet is \$495 and \$395 during the company's pre-order phase.

For more information, go to their web site at: www.hitterscode.com

RFP Pro Practice Mound

A new innovation in portable mounds has been developed over the past 3 1/2 years called the RFP Pro Practice Mound by Athalonz.

It features two clay areas to simulate the rubber area where the



RFP Pro Practice Mound

back foot digs in and the landing area where the lead foot lands.

With this portable mound, pitchers wear cleats which are precisely what they wear during games as they get a feel for their spikes landing into clay and pivoting with the back foot properly.

The clay utilized in these two clay modules are compacted just like a real outdoor mound with minimal clay being pushed outside of the modules.

For years, cold weather schools have utilized well built artificial

See **NEW PRODUCTS**, Page 6



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- BASEBALL/SOFTBALL
50 Games, No Stat Sheets
- BASEBALL/SOFTBALL
30 Games, 9-15 Player Batting Order
- ANNOUNCER SCORE-SHEETS, 50 Games

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