

THE COLLEGE RECRUITING PROCESS AND OUR COLLEGE ADVISORY SERVICE

Attaining **VARSDITY** H.S. status is the lowest common denominator one must possess to enable him to get to **THE NEXT LEVEL**. My contention continues to be that there is a place in college ball for a Varsity H.S. Starter once he graduates. There is certainly a lot of “however...” associated (too many to include in this report to you)!

Because of the tremendous pressure associated with recruiting, scholarship information and assistance is (almost) always welcomed! With this in mind, we have established a website to get “OUR” prospects noticed. The information that we post will be available to many college coaches in our network of friends and associates.

At this time, the **SELECTED** prospects receiving this information (provided the player is on the varsity level) are in on the “ground floor” to gain exposure via **RON GOLDEN’S RADAR SCREEN**. This is a complimentary service because you are a part of our baseball school in some manner. To others not (yet) affiliated with our baseball school, there will be a fee associated to get listed on The Radar Screen!

You should know about our **COLLEGE ADVISORY SERVICE** (as it listed on our website). This is a multi-step program that is aimed at getting top prospects “**exposure**” and visibility. Players who are not yet on the varsity are encouraged to contact me and listen to what I think needs to be done and how best to go about doing it (in order that the proper exposure is received).

Once a player has participated in the 6 – step Advisory Service program, then he should be adequately prepared to pursue his “dream” and desire and **POSITION himself** to play in college. Remember **our mission is:** to prepare h.s. players to be observed by college coaches and for college coaches to know about the “up – and – coming” h.s. players.

GETTING ON THE RADAR SCREEN

In order that our prospects get on The Radar Screen, it is important that they complete responses to the following and submit the responses in a timely manner to Ron Golden. Here is what we need:

Your name	Your 60 yard running time
Your address	Your home – to – 1B time
Your home phone (include area code) & cell phone	Your bat speed
Your graduation year and the name of the high school	Catcher’s “pop” time
Your primary position	Pitcher’s throwing velocity (fast ball & breaking ball)
Your height & weight	Any other statistical DATA
Your throwing & hitting side	
Your current G.P.A.	
Your test scores and dates taken	
Your e-mail address	
Your parent’s names	

POSITIONING YOURSELF FOR “THE NEXT LEVEL”

At the end of the day, it is very important that players and their parents along with the high school coach can come to a realistic decision as to the “**projected**” level of the player’s ability! Being blunt, realistic and to the point, if a prospect has not competed at a high level in his summer baseball, has not gained much exposure and has not “grown up” in an atmosphere where others before him has advanced to a high level, it becomes very difficult for the prospect to catch the eye of the decision – makers! Therefore, it is very important that everyone is honest in the appraisal of the prospect. Yes, everyone thinks that he can play at the D-1 level and thinks that he is a D-1 player, but the truth of the matter is that is not really accurate. What is important is that prospective college players match their possible choices to the projected level of play.

If you are a top prospect, you will get noticed, regardless.....! “While money and finances are often the number one factor to many, there is much more to consider in terms of one’s overall happiness and fit with a college including the coach, the program and the academics. Positioning one’s self includes getting good grades in school [to hopefully help the prospect receive some financial assistance] as well. Another important factor one must consider is the number of players already in the college who play the same position as YOU and their current grade level. Play good summer ball and earn a reputation.

THE COMPLETE PLAYER: THE “5 – TOOL” PROSPECT

Obviously, this is the player that pro scouts and college coaches seek to locate. Baseball players are evaluated on the basis of what is referred to as The 5 Tools. They include:

- Hitting for average
- Hitting for power
- Running speed
- Arm strength
- Fielding ability

The ratings are made on what is noticeable at the current time and the player’s **Overall Future Potential**. This scale is subdivided as follows:

- 70 – 80 All – Star / Well above average
- 60 – 69 Above average
- 50 – 59 Major League Average
- 40 – 49 Below average (on the fringe)
- 30 – 39 Well below average

HITTERS

<u>LH</u>	<u>RATING</u>	<u>RH</u>
3.9 Sec	80	4.0 Sec
4.0	70	4.1
4.1	60	4.2
4.2	50	4.3
4.3	40	4.4
4.4	30	4.5
4.5	20	4.6

VELOCITY

<u>MPH</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
98+	80
93 – 97	70 – 79
90 – 92	60 – 69
88 – 89	50 – 59
85 – 87	40 – 49
83 – 84	30 – 39
82	20 – 29

I find that The Complete Player needs our Complete Program. This includes (and is not limited to) year – around training, conditioning and practice sessions in addition to his actual team participation and competition. This, therefore, includes in – season, out of season and pre – season work.

Featuring structured workouts by supervised personnel, Ron Golden’s Baseball School brings this program to YOU! Players as young as freshmen in high school should consider our structured format as an investment in one’s baseball future. Feel free to inquire about the College Advisory Service and all that I can offer to you.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Today, college baseball is at an all – time HIGH! There are many great programs (at all levels of college play), facilities and coaches. For many players, they are accorded the opportunity to advance beyond the college rank. While college baseball is certainly NOT the answer for all graduating high school players, it is servicing hundreds of potential professional prospect.

To many people in the game, college baseball is viewed as a better option than the “lower” minor leagues for developmental purposes. It goes without saying that the proper balance of games and practices can be found in the college ranks. For many players who have the desire to play professionally, the opportunity to go to college, earn a degree and then move on is a good option. Current athletes are exceedingly aware that the best of all worlds is found playing ball and obtaining a college degree.

Several key questions need to be answered by prospective student – athletes. In no special order they include:

- Location – how near or far from home do I want to be?
- What type of academic program does the college provide?
- What academic interest do I have and can I get the proper course selections needed?
- What are the entrance requirements?
- What is the level of competition in the college?
- Is scholarship assistance provided for the baseball program?
- Is there an opportunity to play (and how soon)?
- Who else has played baseball at the school and where are they now?
- What do we know about the coaching staff?

Certainly we cannot tell a prospect which college to select, but we can be of assistance to some degree in the selection process. Parents are also an integral part of the process. By the sophomore year in high school, it is important to chart those schools one is interested in attending, and begin to keep a keen eye on their progress. Players should also strive to compete during the summer time on the best available team there is in the community so that maximum “exposure” is provided! Attending showcases, camps and clinics is also important. This is where **GOLDEN BASEBALL SCHOOL** can be of assistance! Providing quality programs and exposure are attributes which the school has established and the capability to exhibit for those who attend is the goal it has established! Plan ahead, work hard and set realistic goals. It should pay off!

SEARCHING FOR THE RIGHT COLLEGE TO PLAY BASEBALL SHOULD BE TAKEN VERY SERIOUSLY!

Athletes and parents need to take the initiative as they pursue their dream. Some high school coaches do NOT take a leadership role. That is unfortunate, but does occur. This is the result of many factors. One might be the coach’s inadequacy in evaluating a prospect’s talent. Another might be the coach’s “laid – back” personality. Regardless of the reason, the parents need to be supportive and be of assistance to their son if all parties feel that the player can compete at The Next Level. There is a very ‘fine’ line, however, in what we call – PARENT MEDDLING! Many coaches on the other hand are very helpful and assist their players in a very positive and supportive way

What one college coach likes in a player might not be the same quality or degree of interest that another college coach appreciates. Many athletes can play somewhere. Unfortunately, that somewhere can be the “stumbling” block. We feel that there is a place for many varsity level high school players to continue their play at the next level. But, one might really have to sacrifice in some ways if he truly wishes to continue playing. This could mean playing without the aid of an athletic grant-in-aid scholarship, playing another position that what he might currently be playing, and/or even playing in a part of the country that is not really his first choice. Therefore, a lot of thought MUST be given before making a decision.

It is very important that players and parents know the NCAA rules and regulations pertaining to competing at The Next Level. Or, if one should choose to attend a college affiliated with either the NAIA or a Junior College, those rules need to be examined and understood.

In regard to physical skills, players need to be able to display the 5 TOOLS along with a positive demonstration of agility, flexibility and strength. Determining the “**projected level of participation**” a prospect should “shoot” for is a major deterrent which many athletes must contend with. A realistic analysis must be made or the entire searching and screening process will not prove fruitful or successful. There is where a knowledgeable coach or personal instructor will be of assistance. We are prepared and equipped to assist high school players with this process. In a relatively short period of time, we have been able to workout, evaluate and make proper suggestions and contributions that will enhance a player’s opportunity to compete at **The Next Level**. Contact me for details.

ONCE AGAIN LET ME LIST FOR YOU THOSE TRAITS THAT COACHES & SCOUTS LOOK FOR

POSITION PLAYERS

<u>Trait</u>	<u>Catcher</u>	<u>Infielder</u>	<u>Outfielder</u>
Arm strength	x	x	x
Agility	x	x	
Quickness	x	x	
Ability to receive	x		
Aggressiveness	x	x	
Leadership	x		
Foot speed		x	x
Soft hands	x	x	
Instincts	x	x	
Defensive skills	x	x	x

HITTERS

Strength
 Bat speed
 Plane of the swing
 No fear
 Aggressiveness
 Top hand ['fire']
 Extension and follow through

PITCHERS

Arm strength
 Velocity
 Movement [and the breaking ball with tight movement]
 Plus
 Free arm action and proper delivery
 "Complete" extension and follow - through
 Live, quick arm
 Aggressiveness
 The ability to compete
 The ability to concentrate
 The ability to field the position