

(TRAINING ROOM)



TURN ON IT

with **Dennis Turner**

WOW!

What a great season we had this year and I can't believe it's over for most of us. It has been another successful season for the Worth brand as we continue to develop and market new technology for you the player,

who is out there 4-5 days a week chewing up the dirt and working on your game to make yourself the best you can be.

I remember back when I was playing and it was like clockwork for me to get out on Tuesday and Thursday of each week after work, driving out to New Melle, Missouri to take batting practice with my mentor, Todd Joerling. We had a routine and we stuck with it because it worked and it showed when we got into the tournaments on the weekends. After getting loose and playing catch, we would attack the five lanes. We called them that because that's what was there when you stepped into the batters box. You had the right side on the ground between the first and second baseman, the right-center gap, because everyone played the 5 man, the side of the pitcher opposite of the fifth infielder, the left-center gap, and the 'honey hole' between the third baseman and short-stop. This was the approach we took and it carried over into the games depending on the situation. Depending on the score, how many outs, how many home-runs were left, you always entered the batters box with a plan and part of that plan was to look for the pitch to administer that plan to get the runs in or to get on base. But, with that being said, the pitcher also had an idea of what your plan might be and he obviously would try to get you to hit into his plan or defense alignment. It is a cat and



mouse game, the pitcher trying to get you out by throwing to his defense and you the batter trying to accomplish your plan. It worked out good for us because we positioned ourselves so far off of the plate that we could handle even the inner half pitches and drive them to the right side.

This is just an example of how dedicated most players are when it comes to competitive softball for any level. You always want to prepare yourself for anything that is thrown at you so that you are successful, and the more successful you are, the

more fun you will have, and you will continue to enjoy what you are doing. This not only relates to softball but your job as well. You are going to get out of it what you put into it.

We had some special individuals come through the Worth Tech Center a couple months ago for a tour and to test our latest bat. This group is all about preparation and precise movements. It was great to have the opportunity to meet the Blue Angels, which is the Navy Flight Demonstration



Squadron that travels around the states putting on exhibitions of their tremendous flying skills. They were in town for an event and asked to come by and tour the facility as well as test out some prototypes that we were getting ready to release for the Major World Series. These guys were nothing but professional and it was amazing to hear some of their stories about their day to day activity in order to get ready for their next event. Very similar to the preparation it takes to become a successful softball player. Although the hobbies are different, the amount of effort it takes to become elite and to make yourself better at what you do is the same.

After touring the facility and the lab, they jumped into our huge indoor batting cage to test out the new Resmondo Titan Limited Edition 5.4 technology bat that was released in late September at the USSSA championships at the ESPN Wide World of Sports® complex in Florida. It was amazing to see these guys attack the ball and they were hitting bombs. It was great to see these guys' faces light up because they knew as well as we did, that this bat is phenomenal and typical of most of our high-end composite bats. They were very appreciative of the tour and the chance to be part of the bat testing process. I want to personally thank them for the chance to meet them and to talk about their hobby/career as they have the same outlook on life as we do; work hard at what you do and you will see the rewards.

Congrats to Greg Connell and BJ Fulk for finishing first and second in total homeruns in Conference USSSA this year. Greg led the Conference for the second straight year with 95 HRs and 302 RBI, and BJ hit 77 HRs with 210 RBI. They also just finished up the WSL Long Haul Bomber tour with respectful numbers after getting off to a slow start. Although they fell short of making the finals in New York, they made a huge comeback during the second half of the tour to get close to the other manufacturer teams. After getting canceled a couple of times due to rain-outs, they were able to finish up the tour hitting 93 homeruns out of 180 at bats. I look for them to better their homerun production next season.

Last, but not certainly least, Worth has partnered with ASA to be the official sponsor of the Hooters Championship Series. We jumped in a couple months ago to provide the tournament series



TURN ON IT

with prize packages including the new ASA

Toxic composite bat along with other awards to those teams that have

qualified and won their respective divisions in Oklahoma City. We look forward to this relationship for the next several years as ASA is one of the main players in slow-pitch softball across the nation.

Here's a little teaser for you...Look for Worth's new technology in slow-pitch bats being released next spring. Until then, stay focused and play hard.

DT

