

Day One – Friday 1/26/18

MHSSCA Softball Clinic Schedule

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
8:00 a.m.	Board Meeting	
8:15 a.m.	Registration begins	
9:00 – 9:50 a.m.	Hitting in the Year 2018	John Tschida
9:50 – 10:00 a.m.	<i>BREAK</i>	
10:00 – 10:50 a.m.	Awesome Catching Drills (University Room 1) Base Running-Putting Pressure on the Defense (University Room 1) Combining the Physical & Mental Side of Hitting (Ball Room)	Tiffany Worthy-Deering John Conway John Tschida
10:50 – 11:00 a.m.	<i>BREAK</i>	
11:00 – 11:50 am	The Equalizer: The Deadly Change-Up (Ball Room) Supersonic Infield Drills (University Room 1) Hitting Drills (University Room 1)	John Tschida John Conway Tiffany Worthy-Deering
11:50 – 12:05 p.m.	Promoting Softball Players for College	Jeff Nowaczyk
12:05 – 12:35 p.m.	MHSSCA Business	
12:35 – 1:40 p.m.	Lunch/Vendors/Committee Meetings	
1:40 – 2:30 p.m.	Practice Planning Gems (Ball Room)	John Tschida
2:30 – 2:40 p.m.	<i>BREAK</i>	
2:40 – 3:40 p.m.	MHSAA Rules/Health and Safety (Ball Room)	Andy Osters
3:40 – 3:50 p.m.	<i>BREAK</i>	
3:50 – 4:40 p.m.	Connect Better, Coaching the “iY” Athlete (Ball Room) Tendencies All Good Hitters Have (University Room 1) Slapping Fundamentals and Drills (University Room 2)	Theresa Beeckman Jeff Nowarczyk Katie Smith
4:40 – 4:50 p.m.	<i>BREAK</i>	
4:50 – 5:40 p.m.	Outfield-Making the Last Defense the Best Defense (Univ Room 2) Team Chemistry: How to Motivate & Build Confidence (Imperial Rm 2) Catch It, Block It, and Throw It (University Room 1) Creating a Winning Culture	Brad Koch Alicia Smith Jeff Nowarczyk Theresa Beeckman
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Hall of Fame Banquet	
9:00 – ????????	Coaches' Social & Preseason Rankings	

Day Two – Saturday 1/27/18

MHSSCA Softball Clinic Schedule

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
8:30 – 9:20 a.m.	Preparing Parents of Players for their Role (Ball Room)	Theresa Beeckman
9:20 – 9:30 a.m.	<i>BREAK</i>	
9:30 – 10:20 a.m.	Extreme Intensity Practice Planning	Brad Koch
10:20 – 10:30 a.m.	Coaches Round Table	Coaches

BIOS

John Conway, took over in Detroit Mercy softball in 2014 and he is now entering his 4th year. Since taking over the Titans have increased their win total each spring under Conway, capped off by the 2017 squad's 18 wins – 15 conference wins and the programs first ever appearance in the Horizon League Tournament. The Titans finished 3rd at the tournament. During his time at Saint Leo, Conway guided the Green and Gold softball program to its first ever Sunshine State Conference championship in 2013 after posting a 40-16 overall record and leading his squad to a NCAA regional appearance. The 2013 SSC Coach of the Year led the Lions to a 116-98 overall record during his tenure. Conway joined Saint Leo after a record-setting 2010 season for the Saint Louis Billikens as they ended the year with their first-ever 30-win campaign. The team finished fourth in the Atlantic 10 by winning 12 conference contests and wrapped-up the season by posting a pair of victories at the Atlantic 10 Tournament. In his first full season at the helm, Conway made an immediate impact for Saint Louis, leading the squad to a program-record 29 wins in 2007. In the midst of breaking 25 team and individual records, the squad earned its first appearance in the Atlantic 10 Championship and closed the campaign with a second-place conference finish. The Billikens followed with a third-place Atlantic 10 finish in 2008. The team registered an 11-8 conference mark, as well as posting the program's first back-to-back 20 win seasons (23 wins). The highlight of their season, however, came at the conference championships when the No. 3-seeded Billikens made a run to the conference title game. He led Saint Louis to a 12-6 conference mark and concluded 2009 with a third-place finish. Conway began his collegiate coaching stretch in 2003 at Fontbonne University. While at Fontbonne, Conway turned a three-win squad in 2002 into a conference champion as his team registered a 23-14 record. As a result, the group chronicled its first NCAA Tournament appearance in program history. He garnered St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SLIAC) Coach of the Year and NCAA Division III Midwest Region Coach of the Year. Following a second-place conference finish in 2004, Conway led the Griffins to their second NCAA tournament appearance in three years. On the march to the NCAA's, the Griffins asserted themselves as SLIAC Conference Tournament Champions, as well as achieving a program-best 33-13 record. Another NCAA appearance was on tap for Fontbonne in 2006, as it once again snapped the school record for wins in a season with 34. In conference action, Conway's group amassed an 11-1 mark, while finishing the campaign as SLIAC Coach of the Year for the second time. Still, his coaching career goes beyond the college ranks, as he helmed some of the best club and travel league teams in the Midwest. He led a pair of national powerhouses, St. Louis Chaos and the St. Louis Sluggers, to multiple Amateur Softball Association (ASA) and National Softball Association (NSA) regional and national appearances. Conway received his undergraduate degree in business management/administration from Tarkio (Mo.) College in 1989 and has also served our nation as a member of the United States Coast Guard.

Brad Koch is starting his 2nd season as Head Coach and 11th overall on the Saints coaching staff with his first season being 2008. Prior to taking over head coaching duties, he served as Associate Head Coach and Recruiting Coordinator for three years and assistant coach for six years prior to that as well. In addition to his work on the Aquinas staff, he brings numerous softball coaching experiences to the table. He was the first assistant coach at Grand Rapids Community College for five years from 2003-2007 and the varsity coach at Kenowa Hills High School for five years from 1998-2002. Coach Koch also co-owns and runs Blue Chip Softball which puts on youth softball camps and tournaments here in Michigan. In addition, he coached the Grand Rapids Blaze 18U elite travel team for five years during the summer from 1999-2003. Coach Koch is currently a mathematics teacher at Kenowa Hills High School and he also teaches adjunct math classes at Aquinas. He resides in Comstock Park with his wife Terry, daughter Abby and son Bryce. In their free time, the Koch's enjoy traveling and just spending time by the pool.

Jeff Nowaczyk After completing his college baseball career at Central Michigan University he became the Assistant Baseball Coach and Recruiting Coordinator at Northwood University (earning his M.B.A). Nowaczyk has served as a catching and hitting instructor for 12 years; working camps, clinics, and private lessons throughout the Midwest Region. For the last 5 years Jeff has worked as an assistant scouting director and event coordinator for Prep Baseball Report Michigan, a high school baseball scouting service. In June 2017, Nowaczyk started RISE Softball-Midwest, a girls' premier high school scouting service covering MI, IL, WI, & Ontario. His goal with RISE is to give girls who have dreams and desires of playing college softball the opportunity to be seen by college coaches. Nowaczyk is also a top level, competitive ASA/ISC Men's Fast Pitch Softball player. Last season, Nowaczyk played for the #1 ISC ranked Men's Fast Pitch Team in the world, Hill United Chiefs, as a catcher/infielder. In February 2017, Nowaczyk was named to the USA Men's National Fast Pitch Team where he proudly represent the Red, White and Blue at the International Softball Federation World Softball Championships in Whitehorse, Yukon, & the Pan American Games Qualifier in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic winning a bronze medal and earning a bid into the Pan American Games in 2019.

Tiffany Worthy-Deering (Owner of Premier Softball)

Softball Training Specialties: Hitting, Catching, Fielding & Throwing

Coach Worthy-Deering was a four year varsity letter winner for the University of Michigan Softball Team (2003-2007). She was a part of two Big Ten Tournament Championships, two Regular Season Big Ten Championships and the 2005 NCAA National Championship Team. Coach Worthy-Deering's individual achievements include being named as Captain of the 2007 Michigan Softball Team, All-Big Ten Tournament honors in 2006 and being named to the All Big Ten Second Team in 2007. During the 2006 season, Coach Worthy-Deering led the Wolverines to a Super Regional appearance with a .364 average in 5 NCAA Tournament games during which she launched home runs in three straight games. She carried this momentum into her senior year with the Michigan Wolverines. As Captain, she led the team with 36 RBI's and homered in back-to-back NCAA Regional games to lead U of M to a third straight Super Regional. A native of Yorba Linda, California, Coach Worthy-Deering attended Lutheran High School of Orange County where she was named Best Offensive Player all four years of her varsity career and lead the team with a .700 career batting average. Deering is extremely passionate about the sport of softball and is eager to utilize her experience and knowledge helping to train and develop the potential of young aspiring female athletes. Her experience includes extensive travel teams and as a player/coach at many levels. Coach Worthy-Deering has run several successful softball clinics and camps where she focuses her training on hitting, catching and fielding skill development.

BIOS

John Tschida is regarded among the elite coaches in college softball. He begins his 17th season as head coach of the Tommies in the 2016-17 academic year. In 2004 he became the first softball coach to win NCAA championships at two different schools. He reached 800 career victories in 2015, and coached his 1000th college softball game in 2016. Tschida has been voted into the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He was one of four coaches inducted in December 2016, bringing the elite Hall membership to 73. In addition, John Tschida and his staff were named Division III Midwest Regional Coaches of the Year by the NFCA for the second time in three years in 2016. He's been named NFCA Division III National Coach of the Year twice, and was named Region Coaching staff of the Year in 2014. In 22 years of college coaching, Tschida has won three national championships and became the winningest Division III coach, active or retired, (winning percentage, .845) with a 856-157 record. He guided St. Thomas to a 44-9 record in a school-record 53 contests in 2014 and a third-place NCAA finish out of 405 Division III programs. UST was in the top 25 rankings all season, and closed at No. 3. The Toms won 11 postseason games, including six elimination games. UST went 24-1 against conference opponents. It swept the MIAC regular-season and playoff championships in 2014 for the 10th time in the last 11 seasons. Despite having five freshmen in their starting lineup, the 2016 Tommies made a return trip to the eight-team nationals and tied for seventh place. In the last 13 seasons alone, Tschida has guided the Tommies to

- Six College World Series trips (eight-team nationals)
- NCAA crowns in 2004 and 2005; second at nationals in 2006; a third place in 2014
- Victories in 43 of 63 postseason tournament games (MIAC, NCAA regional, NCAA finals)
- An overall 88-31 postseason record
- A 38-4 mark in the MIAC playoffs
- An overall record of 542-89 (.856 win %).

He guided St. Mary's to the 2000 NCAA Division III championship in his sixth season at his alma mater, and then took the 2004 Tommies to NCAA gold in his fourth season at St. Thomas. Tschida's 2005 team won 32 of its last 33 games to close 43-6 and repeat as NCAA champions. He was again awarded National Coach of the Year honors. Tschida has been named MIAC Coach of the Year 11 of his 22 years. His teams have been nationally ranked each season, and in the last 20 seasons have posted a 420-24 record (.946 win %) in conference regular-season play. In 16 seasons at St. Thomas, his teams have swept 159 conference twinbills, split 16 and were swept just twice, and in all games vs. conference opponents are 265-24 (.917 win %). His UST players have earned 33 NCAA All-American honors, 15 CoSIDA Academic All-American honors, and more than 100 first-team All-MIAC honors. A respected clinician and speaker, Tschida travels the country and the world to promote fastpitch softball and educate fellow coaches on fine points of training and competition. Due to time commitments away from St. Thomas, he turned down invitations by two different countries to coach their national teams in the 2008 Olympics Games.

Theresa Beeckman A highly-respected coach, educator and speaker, Theresa Beeckman is the president and founder of Tree Roots Culture Consulting and Camps LCC. With more than two decades of coaching experience at a variety of levels, Tree as she is known, has built a championship pedigree with success at numerous stops. The longtime collegiate coach served as an assistant coach at NCAA Division I Central Michigan for five years, helping the Chippewas to the school's first-ever Mid-American Conference (MAC) Tournament Championship in 2011. In her tenure at CMU, she also directed the squad on an interim basis in her final campaign. She is also currently serving on staff for the Western Michigan University Volleyball team. During her stint at CMU, Beeckman's guidance helped the Chippewas' Kelly Maxwell become one of the top setters in the country. Her efforts enabled Maxwell to lead the MAC in assists and rank 11th in the nation as a senior while earning all-conference and postseason recognition. The veteran coach directed setter training and quality control as CMU's offensive coordinator along with other duties such as coordinating team travel and recruiting. "I trusted that Tree's methods were going to get me somewhere and I felt like the training I had under her gave me an edge on the competition," said Maxwell, who's currently an assistant coach at the University of Toledo. Known for her loyalty, commitment and dedication, Beeckman was the top assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at perennial NCAA Division II power Ferris State for six years before moving on to Central Michigan. While with the Bulldogs, she helped lead FSU to two NCAA Tournament appearances and six-straight Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Tournament bids while becoming one of the top assistant coaches in the country after helping FSU average more than 20 wins a season. "Theresa was not only paramount in my success as a setter, she was also a support system I relied on," said former Ferris State standout setter Dr. Samantha Fordyce. "Theresa understands the ups and downs experienced by an athlete and the drive necessary to become something great. Through Tree's passion and determination, she continued to motivate and inspire me to push myself to the limits and to be better every day. Not only did Tree help mold me as a player, but she helped define me as a person." Before her tenure at Ferris State, Beeckman served for four years as the head coach at Delta College and led the squad to a school-record 27 victories in 2004. Under her tutelage, the Pioneers posted the best three-year stretch in their history. In addition to her head coaching duties, Beeckman also gained administrative experience as the assistant athletics director at Delta College for two years. In her time as an accomplished administrator and collegiate coach, she's had the opportunity to work with numerous all-conference and All-America student-athletes, earning respect across the nation. Beeckman's also received certification from the USA Volleyball Coaching Accreditation Program. Along with her collegiate background, Beeckman also holds experience coaching at the prep level, having served as head volleyball coach at Hemlock (Mich.) High School from 2003-05 and Saginaw (Mich.) Nouvel Catholic Central High School from 1995-2001. Her other coaching stops include two seasons (1999-2000) as the head softball coach at her alma mater, Bridgeport (Mich.) High School, and two seasons (2001, 2004) as an assistant softball coach at Delta College. She's also been highly active working at various camps and clinics across the country. A 2005 graduate of Saginaw Valley State University with a degree in psychology, Beeckman played four seasons of softball for the Cardinals and earned all-conference recognition as a catcher in 1997 and 1998. The Bridgeport native was voted as SVSU's Most Improved Player following the 1996 season and served a year as a volunteer assistant coach in the program following graduation. A published author and veteran presenter, Beeckman authored an article entitled "Blocking from a Catcher's Point of View", which was published in the AVCA's drill bulletin Volleyball Ace Power Tips. She also was a featured speaker at the Premier Volleyball Academy's coaching symposium held during the NCAA Women's Coaches Academy and at other various events, including the Michigan Interscholastic Volleyball Coaches Association's (MIVCA) annual clinic. The 1994 Bridgeport graduate competed in volleyball, softball, basketball and football as a prepster. She claimed softball team MVP Award laurels three times and was named to the Saginaw News All-Area Team twice along with being an All-Tri Valley Conference honoree. "As a parent and coach, Theresa is one I would want working with my kids or team," said Tom Kelsey, of The Coaches Alley. "Theresa Beeckman is the real deal and does an outstanding job. I know she has passion." Beeckman, who resides in Big Rapids, Mich., graduated from the NCAA Women's Coaching Academy in the summer of 2008. "I can honestly say Tree took me from a good setter to a great setter, and more importantly, an all-around better individual," Fordyce said. "Theresa will forever be my coach and dearest friend. I was blessed to have my time with her on the court and she is truly one of a kind. "

BIOS

Alicia Smith A graduate of Coldwater High School in 1993, where she played basketball and softball. She continued her softball playing career at Western Michigan University from 1993-1997, and in 1998, she started coaching at Mattawan as the Head JV Coach. In 2001, she took the varsity coaching job, along with co-head coach Teri Clark. Over her 15 years as a varsity coach, she has amassed a 400-178-1 career record, leading Mattawan to 2 conference championships, 8 District titles, 5 regional titles, a Final Four appearance in 2015, a State Finalist in 2012, and the Division I State Title in 2011 and 2013. In addition to high school, Alicia has 9 years of travel ball experience with various organizations. In 1998, Alicia graduated with a BS in Engineering Graphics and Design Technology from WMU and is currently working as a Design Supervisor for the Engine Air Management Division at Eaton Corporation in Marshall, MI. In 2013, she is completed her Master's Degree in Coaching Sport Performance from WMU. Alicia currently lives in Kalamazoo with her husband Giles and 6 year old daughter Taylor.