

## **MHSBCA ALL-STAR GAME AT COMERICA PARK --- MUCH MORE THAN JUST A GAME!**

The 2008 East –West All Star game at Comerica Park was exciting and ended up in a 3-1 win for the East squad. All the players on both sides went through 2 days of hanging out with each other at the batting cages at Home Plate Sports Center in St. Clair Shores and spending the night at the Holiday Inn Express. “Staying in the hotel with each other and getting to know all the players was a lot of fun and meant so much to me,” Macomb Dakota senior Rodney Hush said. “To get to see some of these guys play that I’ve heard about all year long was nice. Like the kid from Liggett (Curtis Fisher), it was a lot of fun watching him. We all hung out and talked about all the stuff we’ve done in high school. It was so cool meeting all these guys and getting to know them. It is an experience I will remember the rest of my life.” The bonding that went on between the players on both sides is something that makes this event so special. It all starts with the MHSBCA All Star and Hall of Fame Banquet that takes place the night before the All Star Game at Zuccaro’s Country House and Banquet Hall. The players get a chance to spend time with other players, their families and coaches from across the state. “It was an honor to be named to the team and to be able to share this experience with our families is extra special, says senior Matt Broder from Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood. I will cherish this experience for the rest of my life!”

As a coach in this game, I saw so many players getting to know each other and just having a great time off the baseball diamond. Watching the guys hanging out in the hotel and laughing together is what this game is all about. Yes, it is great to play in Comerica Park and be among some of the best players in the state of Michigan, but to be able to make friendships with some other players around the state is something that these boys will remember most. “I have definitely made some friendships that I will have forever, says senior Curtis Fisher from University Liggett in Grosse Pointe Woods. These guys are so much fun and I am so lucky to be a part of this whole experience. It feels like a dream I wish would never end.” Birmingham Brother Rice senior Andy Lentz was another player that got caught up in the experience, “I have met so many cool people here the past two days, says Lentz. I loved playing at Comerica and I loved meeting all these players.....I will never forget this!”

“We do a lot to make this event enjoyable for all the players and coaches and it makes me happy to see how much this means to them, says MHSBCA All Star Chairperson Mario Borrocci. This experience is something they will have only once in a lifetime!” I was honored to be selected as a coach for this All Star game and was even more honored to get to know all these fine young men. The 2009 MHSBCA ALL STAR GAME is this Tuesday June 16<sup>th</sup> at Comerica Park at 7:00pm. We have Little League teams and Summer Federation teams attending and it is a game you don’t want to miss. ---Dan Cimini—University Liggett