

Baseball academy provides state-of-the-art instruction

By Jack McLaughlin
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As baseball is often referred to as America's national pastime, it also seems to be the official sport of summer. And there aren't many people in the state of Wisconsin who know baseball better than Greg Reinhard.

After playing collegiate baseball at UW-Whitewater and winning a national championship in 2005 (while also being named pitcher of the year), Reinhard was later drafted by the Tampa Bay Rays, and played in Minor League Baseball until 2010.

And through his career accomplishments, Reinhard is trying to take baseball and softball to the youth, via his Windsor-based Greg Reinhard Baseball Academy (GRBA).

The academy, which has existed since 2011, offers assistance in the sport through a wide variety of training tactics, including summer camps, league teams, private lessons, and much more.

GRBA Summer Camp, also known as the Five Tool Camp, which has existed since the business opened seven years ago, aims to help players of all ages better their game holistically.

"A five tool player defines a player that does everything good – throw, run, hit for average, hit for power, and field. So this camp focuses on all aspects of the game," Rein-

hard said.

The three-day camps run from 12-2 p.m. three days a week during specified summer dates.

Additionally, the academy also sponsors its very own roster or age-based teams. Ranging from ages 9-17, the younger teams generally stick to more local competition, with older squads often competing at the national level, all under the tutelage of the highly-knowledgeable GRBA staff.

What's more, the institution is implementing a

state of the art analytics program into their training regimens to help players take their game to the next level. Such statistics have been used in baseball professionally for some time, but this year GRBA is instituting the HitTrax system, which tracks everything from bat speed, swing angle, and ball launch velocity. In the coming years, the academy plans to incorporate even more cutting edge technology, including a program for pitching known as Rapsodo.



An infield drill takes place at the academy. (Photo courtesy of Greg Reinhard Baseball Academy)

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