

JEFF DURLAUF

From Catching Fly Balls to Molding Minds: Jeff Durlauf Knows the Ropes

Graduate: Class of 2001 Occupation: Business Teacher, Coach
By Mitch Lampert, Spring, 2010

On typical Monday morning, Jeff Durlauf walks through the school halls at eight o'clock in the morning, no longer a student. Jeff graduated from Forest Park in 2001 and currently works as a business teacher and baseball coach for his alma mater. From a student at Forest Park to a teacher, Jeff lives his dream. A graduate of the class of 2001, Jeff was quite an athlete while attending Forest Park. Most of his achievements related to sports. He has earned All-Conference in baseball for three years and All-Conference in soccer for one year. Academically, he has been on the honor roll all four years of high school.

After graduating from Forest Park, Jeff's hard work and dedication helped him to achieve a scholarship to play baseball at Oakland City University. He excelled on and off the field. While attending Oakland City, Jeff received a bachelor's degree in both business education and vocational education. On the field, Jeff was unstoppable! In 2004 and 2005, Jeff and the Mighty Oaks of Oakland City finished fourth in the nation in National Christian College Athletic Association in 2004, and in 2005, they finished second in the nation. Individually, Jeff was outstanding! In his four years of playing for the Mighty Oaks, Jeff was part of the Division II All-Region Team, NCCAA two-time All-American, and the Mideast Region Player of the Year. Jeff also holds the records at Oakland City for the all-time leader in homeruns, doubles, and slugging percentage. He also holds these records for a single-season.

When Jeff received both of his bachelor's degrees, he quickly found a teaching job at nearby Heritage Hills High School. While at Heritage Hills, Jeff taught business, and he coached baseball for two years. However, after those two years, he finally earned an unbelievable offer: teaching at Forest Park. At Forest Park, Jeff teaches interactive media where the school news is produced. He also teaches Accounting I, computer applications, and business law. His goal is "to provide a safe environment for students to learn and grow and be successful in life."

Currently, Jeff resides in St. Anthony, Indiana. In his spare time, Jeff enjoys playing and coaching baseball, going hunting, and participating in Cross-fit - a highly intense workout. Jeff states to students, "Cherish your high school days. I wanted to get out so bad, and then I couldn't wait to get back." This graduate's wishes became fulfilled when he received the job to teach and roam Forest Park's halls again.