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**Indiana High School Baseball Coaches Association
announces Madison, Indiana as the 2019 All-Stars Series
Tournament host site.**

Madison, IN: In true team fashion, Madison Cubs Baseball, Visit Madison, Inc., Jefferson County Board of Tourism, the City of Madison, and Hanover College have hit a homerun. Madison varsity baseball coach Tim Armstrong received confirmation last week from IHSBCA that Madison has been selected to host the 2019 All-Stars Series Tournament.

“The North-South All-Stars Series Tournament is a showcase event for premier athletes from around the state. It’s been on our radar for several years going back to 2003. We would all get together- Mike Modisett, Ryan Mahoney, Joe Jenner, Coach O’Neal and myself - and dream about the possibility... this year we decided we wanted to make a run at a host site pitch,” shared Armstrong. “We want to share our hometown and love for the game and we understand what a unique opportunity this would be for our community, but we knew we would need help. After visiting with Tawana Thomas, Executive Director of Visit Madison, Inc. and Hanover College baseball coach, Shane Stock to share our idea, we were off to the races pretty quickly.”

As a host community, Madison will provide players with a unique, blended experience different from previous locations. “We are very excited to be able to offer a different type of experience for the athletes where they can explore the scenic campus and state-of-the-art athletic facilities at Hanover College, but travel a short distance to play on our outstanding field and experience the beauty of historic Madison with their families when not on the field,” states Armstrong. “Often times, the All-Star weekend is hosted in a larger city, or on a sizeable college campus - we are excited to provide a more rural, small-town feel for this major event.”

“Baseball truly reflects the spirit of this community and its people. It emphasizes hard work, honesty, pulling together as a team, sportsmanship, and a sense of fair play,” states Madison Mayor, Damon Welch. “These values are at the very heart of our existence as a great community. I can think of nothing more appropriate, than participating in a tournament such as this, which instills these values in America’s youth, our future, and our hope for tomorrow.”

The All-Star weekend event, held July 12-14, 2019, will host approximately 200 to 250 athletes, their families, and coaches from around the state. The annual North-South All-Star Series Tournament will be played at Gary O’Neal Field on the campus of Madison Consolidated High School and will showcase 50 elite, senior athletes from around the state. All-Star athletes are selected through a nomination process which begins with the head coach and historically has fielded a pool of approximately 200-300 athletes for consideration.

The weekend also includes a Junior Showcase Workout for high-performing athletes entering their senior year. In a similar process, coaches nominate players who are then invited by the IHSBCA to participate. The Showcase Workout will be held at Hanover College's K.T. Young Ball Park. Both events provide athletes with exposure and draw college scouts.

"We are very excited about this opportunity and look forward to exploring ways to include unique aspects of our community with our visiting families. We owe a huge thank you to Tawana and Sarah Prasil of Visit Madison, Inc. who did an outstanding job of showcasing Madison and Hanover College in the [bid package video](#) and packet," stated Armstrong. "We have a lot of work to do between now and then, but we look forward to sharing our progress as we move closer to the first pitch."

Visit Madison has plans to incorporate baseball themes and activities throughout the week leading up to the tournament. "We want to create an environment where there is always something to do for our guests," shares Tawana Thomas. "I encourage any business or establishment to reach out if they would like to get involved in this great weekend."

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