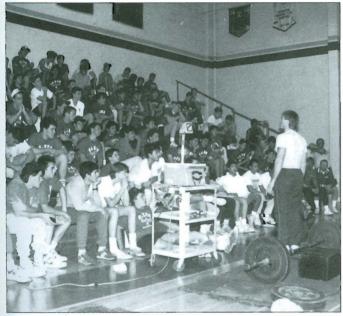
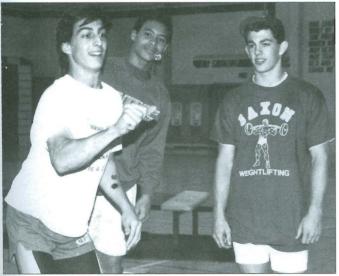


Bob Rowbotham working on advanced flexibility with Loara athlete.



Bob Rowbotham, BFS Clinician, establishing the dream at the Loara High School Clinic.



All League Defensive Back Sean Conner having fun at clinic with Coach Rowbotham's hand quickness game.

Sean has a 4.5 GPA.

LOARA SAXONS EMPIRE LEAGUE CHAMPS

Editor's Note: Last year Bob Rowbotham conducted a BFS Clinic at Loara High School in the Los Angeles area. The Loara Saxons play in one of the toughest baseball leagues in the nation. They were picked to come in last but won the Empire League Championship. Their story is told by Ray Moore, Loara High School Athletic Director.

Dear Bob,

I am writing to tell you about our '89 varsity baseball season and the amazing performance of this team. When initiated the BFS Program last year, our first group to be involved was our baseball program. Since that time, we have had a very successful clinic that generated a tremendous excitement on our campus, and our coaches have begun using the BFS System for every sport (boys and girls).

The 1989 varsity baseball season began with a preseason forecast of gloom and doom for the Loara Saxons. We were picked by area coaches and media to finish last or next to last ion the very competitive Empire League of Southern California. As the season began, our team performed just like everyone had expected, a 1-5 start, with 35 errors. Our coaches and players were frustrated and began to press. After a 3-7 pre-season record and a disastrous Easter trip, amazing things began to happen! Great defense, timely hitting, and good fortune joined together and all of a sudden, the Saxons were 7-3 in league. A renewed confidence came over our team and the rallving cry was to "earn respect in the Empire League!" After a come-from-behind victory against Los Alamitos, the league leaders, the Saxons were tied for the Empire League lead. Everything was falling into place, like all good teams, a chemistry developed that had everyone pulling for each other. There was no stopping the Saxons. This group of athletes and coaches won 11 of their last 12 games (including 9 in-a-row) to finish 11-4 in league and win the Empire League Championship!

Needless to say, many people were shaking their heads in amazement. What happened to the group of misfits that had begun the season and had been transformed into a championship unit? I believe it was a combination of many things, of which, the BFS Program was a major contributor. Since we began our lifting program, we did not have any major injury that kept a player out of a game. In fact two of our starters (catcher

Continued on page 24

EVERY EXPERT WAS VERY VERY WRONG THE DREAM • THE GOAL • THE GLORY

LOARA WINS CHAMPIONSHIP!

Continued from page 23

and 3rd baseman) had had serious knee injuries earlier in their careers. Our players seemed to get stronger physically and mentally as the season progressed. Seven of our nine starters hit .300 or better. Our team's .307 batting average was one of the best in the school's history. At the conclusion of the season, our team gained some well-deserved individual awards. MVP of the league was awarded to outfielder/pitcher Kenny Williams who hit .443 and was 3-0 with 5 saves. Third baseman, Matt Drager (.500), catcher, Chris Hoffman (.333), outfielder Joey Gaudio (.367), and pitcher, Eric Smith (5-0) were named 1st team All-League. First baseman, Rusty Tamblyn, and dh, Andy Hall were chosen 2nd team All-League and shortstop, Czach Hallock, second baseman Erich Munzer, and outfielder, Randy Halcomb were named Honorable Mention. The most deserving honor was awarded to Head Coach Roby Megill, who was named Empire League Coach-Of-The-Year. Coach Megill and Assistant Coach Jerry Halpin did an outstanding job of maintaining confidence in our team. We are very proud of the quality of coaches we have here at Loara High School. The 1989 baseball season will always be a source of pride for our coaches and players. Thanks to you and BFS for helping build that championship type of effort.

FINAL NOTES

Rusty Evans, writer for the local Anaheim Bulletin newspaper wrote, "It's difficult to believe that the Loara baseball team that beat then league-leading Los Alamitos Wednesday is the same group that started the season 1-4 with 35 errors, including 13 in one game.

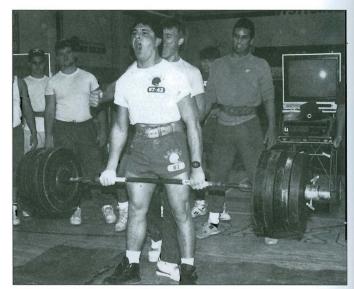
But, the Saxons have turned things completely around after both the Loara Tournament and a 3–7 preseason.

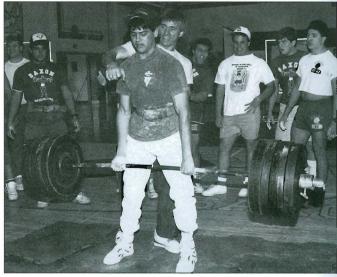
"We could have quit a long time ago," Loara coach Rob Megill said. "But this team has come a long way. A lot of people wrote us off a long time ago, but this is a good bunch of kids. There is a lot of cohesiveness on this team and the kids play together well. That has been the key for us."

With a BFS Clinic turnarounds are supposed to happen. You never take your eyes off the goal. You never ever quit. You keep training and breaking records during the season so that you're always getting stronger. You train hard as a team and savor the victories together. The Dream – The Goal – The Glory!



All League 3rd Baseman Matt Drager (in hat) doing hand clap pushups with Coach Rowbotham.





Coach Rowbotham concluding his clinic with Anthony Dunton (upper photo) an All-League Linebacker Dead Lifting 500 pounds and an All-League DH Andy Hall Dead Lifting 600 while weighing only 150 pounds.

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