



# Coach Dad

Story | JEAN CIAMPI  
Photography | SCOTT CORRON

In 2007, Craig Biggio retired from an illustrious career in Major League Baseball, having played 20 highly acclaimed years with the Houston Astros. Retirement, however, lasted all of four days. Finally able to just sit in the stands and drink his coffee at St. Thomas High School where his son Conor is a student athlete, Biggio was quickly recruited to help coach the football team.

“My intent was to just hang out and watch my kid’s practice. I hadn’t ever been able to do that because I was gone all the time. I love being out here playing,” he said with obvious enjoyment. “I treasure this opportunity to be around my kids. I’m having a lot of fun!”

Now the school’s head varsity baseball coach, he’s found a new passion in teaching what he loves to his son and his teammates with no regrets for his former life in the big leagues.

“My career was unbelievable. I was able to walk away when I could make the choice to do that,” Biggio says. When I turned that page, I turned it to teaching. And this, being out here with them, is worth all the money in the world.”

Biggio admits that coaching has opened his eyes to the possibilities of where he might go next. His second son, Cavan, will be a freshman at St. Thomas next year, and his youngest daughter, Quinn, is also a promising athlete. As his children grow up, he considers the possibility of coaching at the college level or a return in that capacity to the Majors.

“I had a lot of passion as a player. I have that same passion now as a coach,” he says. “When I’m done here, I’m not sure what’s next, but I know I want to stay in the game.”

He thinks, though, that next time he retires, he might take five days off. ♣