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TWB #714

TWIB continues to take viewers far beyond the game with an all access pass to the sights and sounds of the Major League Baseball. This week TWIB featured the Minnesota Twins and their stylish star Joe Mauer. When the season began, the Twins were losing, but they continued to come to the ballpark determined to have fun and never quit. With pitchers Johan Santana and Francisco Liriano forming one of the best duos in the majors, the Twins played well enough to get back in the wild card race. The Minnesota hitting attack is led by Joe Mauer, Justin Morneau and Torii Hunter.
Educational theme: Attitude is a state of mind that is the initial step towards the pursuit of success. Fun is a primary motivation to participate and win. Fun is the valuable use of one's time.

“Act Two”: This act featured the “Top Five Things You Didn't Know About the Twins,” including that Justin Morneau and Jesse Craig played for Team Canada in the World Baseball Classic, and that Torii Hunter has five gold gloves, the third most in Twins history.

Minnesota catcher and hometown hero Joe Mauer is from nearby St. Paul, MN. Joe continues to lead the American League in hitting and could become the first A.L. catcher ever to lead the league in hitting.

Educational theme: Baseball is an excellent example of ethnic and multi-cultured international diversity. Baseball is the fastest growing sport in the world.

Educational theme: Athletic awards are symbolic tokens of athletic achievement and character that are regarded as something special.

Educational theme: Spectators have a special and unique emotional attachment to locally born and raised athletes. Fans perceive an athlete's loyalty to the community when he plays for the local team. This devoted attachment is greatly respected and appreciated. It is enhanced when those athletes achieve something special in their sport.

“Pitch, Hit and Run”: This segment stresses baseball fundamentals to help kids develop their game. TWIB shows how major league players put these skills to use. This week outfielders were featured because these are the men who take away hits and home runs. Spectacular catches robbing hitters of home runs were shown using the Cincinnati Red Ken Griffey, Jr., Toronto Blue Jay Vernon Wells, Minnesota Twin Torii Hunter and Texas Ranger Gary Matthews, Jr.

Educational theme: Sports pedagogy involves the explanation and demonstration of sports skills necessary to compete at the elite level in athletics. Pedagogy involves biomechanics, theory, strategy, and mental aspects of sport.

Educational theme: Once learners have carefully observed elite athletic movement, it can better be comprehended, and then copied and performed. Children have an opportunity to be physically educated.

“Front Row Fans”: Minnesota fans have good reason to love the 2006 Twins, but this season they are celebrating the late Hall of Fame star Kirby Puckett. During the seventh inning of home games they pay tribute to Kirby with video on the big screen. Fans and teammates alike loved Kirby, because of his smile, personality and clutch performances. And in Kirby’s honor all the Twins wear #34 on their uniforms. This is an honor reserved for special athletes.

Educational theme: Love and fidelity for special people are healthy emotions that give purpose to life. Spectators have deep and lasting devotions to teams and players contribute meaning to the American culture.

Educational theme: Tributes are acknowledgments of respect and admiration attesting to an athlete’s praiseworthy qualities and character. These are reserved for special people.

“How ‘bout that!”: TWIB presented the sights and sounds of the best plays of the week. Sensational and brilliant catches, candid dugout chatter, diving catches of ground balls and creative throws were featured in this act. TWIB also documented the three landmark home runs of Jose Reyes.

Educational theme: The artistic value of sport can be found in the grace, beauty, effort and rhythmic patterns of athletic movement.

Educational theme: Landmark performances in an athlete’s career provide much of the tradition of sport that creates interest for fans and players.