

Baseball Looks for Feminine Viewpoint

"We are looking for the feminine viewpoint and we're willing to do things that haven't been done before," Vincent Stanley, president of Rochester Community Baseball, remarked as the Redwings warmed up the day before the home opener.

"A family can stay together only as long as it can play together," he expounded, adding, "We're trying to promote baseball to the young girl. She'll have a better relationship later with her sons and husband if she un-

FAVORITE ACTIVITY -

Swimming is fast becoming the nation's most popular outdoor activity, according to a U.S. Department of Interior study. The time Americans spend swimming each summer far surpasses that spent playing tennis, golfing, bicycling or any water-related activity.

In fact, Americans spend more time in outdoor swimming pools than they do on the nation's golf courses and tennis courts combined. Add the time spent in the ponds, streams, lakes and oceans, and swimming leads any other outdoor recreation activity by a comfortable two-to-one margin.

derstands the game." Stanley suggested a sports information service for women.

Third baseman Taylor Duncan and Outfielder Jim Fuller agreed that, "You can't do anything without a good woman." Fuller said that sports fan husbands who can't be lured away from the TV or ball park can be inconsiderate. He encouraged wives to get involved with their husbands' interest.

Why do people watch baseball? Fuller claimed that baseball is interesting because it provides a lot of diversity, versatility, and individual match-ups in the context of a team sport.

Joe Altobelli, Redwings manager and former Big League player, romanticized the spectator. "Dreamers come thinking some day their son may be a player," he said. "They're intrigued by the instant success of some of the players. It's a fantasy world. Only so many can play and when they come they see just the glamour side of the game."

Jim Fuller drew attention to another side to playing the game. A baseball career is usually short-lived, and "Only one out of 100

guys who sign a contract to play baseball ever make the big leagues," he said.

Fuller added that if a player is lucky he'll enjoy about five years of good salary. "It's a chance to make quick money," he said, but afterwards a player has to make it on his own; "usually in different business ventures." Although baseball players are not prone to the bone crushing injuries that can plague football players, they play 12 times as many games a season, increasing the probability of some sort of injury, Fuller said.

"If a pitcher loses his arm what can he do?"

Duncan named confidence as the quality essential to success as a ball player. "You have to believe you can do it," Fuller classed skills and the ability to adjust at the top of the list. Altobelli said practice and "smarts" make the difference. "Humility is important too. A guy has to be able to maintain a positive attitude even after a bad night or during the pressure of failure."

"You can learn things in sports that you cannot learn in books, the classroom, or from the pulpit," Vinc Stanley said. "Life is competition and you'll have a tough time if you haven't learned the give and take that you learn in sports. We're trying to build a better community through sports."

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