

There is No Substitute For Hard Work

-Thomas A. Edison

There is no quote more fitting to our first recipient of the Athlete of the Month Award. When the Baseball Club opened in December, 2012, Curt Boyd was one of the firsts knocking at the door. There have been days when I arrived to the club only to find Curt waiting for us to open, and there have been days when I have stayed opened later to let him finish hitting.

In the beginning, before Curt became a regular, he was just "Squeaks McGee", a nine year old boy with a squeaky voice, a big smile, and an intense passion for the game. Over the past two years Curt has attended almost every clinic offered; he is seen at the club at least 5 days a week. His work ethic and drive is incomparable and much admired. Curt is not the biggest nor is he the most gifted, but that has never stopped him in his pursuit to become the best. Curt told his mom, "No one loves baseball more than me," there couldn't be a more true statement. His passion for the game is not only enjoyable to watch, but contagious. Other players have increased their attendance at the club in response to Curt's model behavior. As a baseball coach, there is nothing more beautiful to watch than athletes working together to improve because it is what THEY want and not what YOU want.

Curt is not only a good baseball player but more importantly, a good person. Curt always helps clean up after his workouts and is very coachable. For the past two years, Coach Jay Schnabel has been his primary instructor. In his remarks about Curt, Jay says

When I first met Curt, the obvious thing to say is that I saw him at the facility everyday. However, the more I watched him, the better I got to know him. I realized that he genuinely cared for those around him. I can't tell you how many times I have seen Curt introduce himself to a new player at the club or play catch with an older or younger kid he barely knows. His personality and positive approach to everything he does is what really impresses me about Curt Boyd. When it comes to baseball, I have never come across a young player with such a ferocious desire to not only succeed, but to be the best player on the field. Curt once told me that he has made the decision to be the best player BBC has ever seen. I told Curt that as long as he keeps his grades up, I will be there for him to achieve his goal every step of the way.

Always respectful, always smiling, his parents, Joe and Jill, have raised him right. Curt not only works hard on the field but in the classroom as well. On many occasions he has brought school work to the club to make sure all his responsibilities are complete.

The baseball club truly wouldn't be the same without Curt. It has been a privilege to meet such a wonderful young man. I also see it as an honor and a challenge to find the right words expressing just how much Curt has meant to the club. Good luck with everything Curt as you pursue your future; there is no one more deserving in our first inaugural Athlete of the Month Award.

With deep appreciation for your love of the game,

Jim Joyce