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Cut -

Gov. Lt. Gov. are not coming.  
per Margaret Jones.

Jim 10/30

(Smith/Grossman)  
October 30, 1991  
Draft Three  
SERIES

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WORLD SERIES  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1991  
ROSE GARDEN  
1:45 P.M.

Carl Pohlad [POE-lad], players, coaches, and official family  
of the 1991 Minnesota Twins. ~~Governor and Mrs. Carlson, Lt.~~

~~Governor and Mr. Dyrstad.~~ Our World Series umpires: Richie  
Garcia, Drew Coble [COE-ble], Don Denkinger, Rick Reed, Terry  
Tata [TAY-ta], Harry Wendelstedt. / I remember how famed umpire  
Bill Klem said, "I never called one wrong in my heart." That's  
how Presidents feel. // Baseball fans, fellow Americans. //

First, let me say it's a pleasure to see so many great  
amateur players. // Two Washington, D.C. champions -- the Bell  
Multicultural High School boys, and HD Woodson High School girls.  
// Here, too, are America's Little League champions from  
Danville, California. /

And we're lucky to have four Babe Ruth League championship  
teams with us. They come from Cincinnati and Oakland -- last  
year's World Series teams -- and from LaCrescenta, California,  
and Marietta, Georgia. // ((George Jr. called this morning: He  
wants me to scout all of you for the Texas Rangers.)) //

I also want, of course, to welcome the authors of "That  
Championship Season" / the 1991 Minnesota Twins / a team that  
helped deepen America's love affair with baseball. // You showed  
why baseball is the most democratic of sports -- of course, it's

also the most republican. / Whether in the major leagues or Little League, what counts is the size of your heart and of your dreams. //

When we finish here, maybe the Twins can go over to the Capital and give Congress a few tips on playing ball with the White House. // Before then, I'd like to take a few moments to talk about a baseball season that had it all: Excitement, controversy, and mutual admiration. And that was just Ted Turner and Jane Fonda. //

In 1990, the Twins placed last in the American League West. This year, they rose like Lazarus to win their division and beat Toronto in the playoffs. // Then came the 88thth World Series, and what a Series it was. / Five games decided by a single run. / Three went extra innings. / Five games won in the last inning, and four in the last at-bat. // It was a Series of indescribable tension -- a Fall Classic for all time. //

Let me take a moment, incidentally, to talk about that other team in the World Series. // What a season was the Atlanta Braves'. What a tribute to human character. / They, too, went from worst to first. They, too, captivated a Nation. They made us hope that the Series -- like the season itself -- would never draw to a close. //

Sadly, both now are over. But what memories you have given us. Of infielders Chuck Knoblauch [KNOB-lock] and Greg Gagne. ((I think it was Abe Lincoln who said, "You can feel some of the

people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time. But it took Gagne and Knoblauch to fool a base-runner one time.))

We recall, too, Brian Harper's clutch hits / Kirby Puckett's Game Six-winning home run and circus catch near the wall / ((Suddenly, Kirby, your glove has become more valuable than Michael Jackson's)) // and Kent Hrbek's [HER-beck] brilliance in the field ((I'm not going to comment on that controversial play when Kent tagged Ronnie Gant after Gant came off first base. But Barbara asked me to point out to Kent that she could use some help around the house with heavy lifting.))

Finally, we think of other moments that made this a Series of snapshots of the mind. Dan Gladden's tenth-inning, Game-Seven hustle -- and Gene Larkin, coming off the bench. / We recall Tom Kelly, manning furiously against Bobby Cox / one of the greatest bullpens in baseball history / and Jack Morris -- winning two games, including a final-game shutout, and thrilling the game's most eardrum-popping fans. //

Perhaps Mr. Morris -- the Series' Most Valuable Player --- said it best: "It's unfortunate that anyone had to lose this Series because this was a true classic in every sense of the word." // Each of you made this Series a kaleidoscope of beauty. Each showed why millions of Americans watch baseball, listen to, read about, and debate it -- and why for a few golden days each October, each of us becomes a self-anointed expert. //

That wonderful man, the late Bart Giamatti, once wrote, "Baseball is designed to break our hearts." It also lifts them

as perhaps no sport can. / Thanks for the memories, and for  
coming to the White House. God bless you, and the United States  
of America.

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