

Father's Day Strat-O Memory

"Silly Superstition"

One of my fondest memories of playing Strat-O-Matic baseball is with my dad. I remember playing with the 1987 card set. It seems that every time he played, he wanted to be the Minnesota Twins. Now, he was not a Twins fan, but he did remember the '87 World Series proudly. I think it was because of the teams that played in the World Series.

What made this memory so fond is when he would put Tim Laudner in the game at Catcher. Laudner's numbers weren't great by any means. .191 AVG but did have 16 HRs in his 288 AB. The thing I remember most is when Laudner would come up to bat, my dad would say, "Here comes Tim 'I'm no good Laudner'" before each dice roll. The thing I remember is that when he would say that phrase, I'd guess 85% of the time Laudner would hit a HR. He usually would get the roll on his card. If an out was rolled, the comment, "See, I told you he was no good!" would be uttered from his mouth. It was something my father, my brother, and I shared and still laugh at today. It was a silly superstition he came up with to enhance our game playing.

Now it's been well over 25 years since I first heard that phrase. In my current 1987 replay on the PC he has hit 4 HR in 80 AB. Each time he comes to the plate, I say the phrase, "Now batting Tim 'I'm no good Laudner'" and I think of my father.

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