

# **Jacobs Destiny**

*(A Screenplay, by John Shields)*

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## **Overview**

Larry and Shelly Wyatt are late middle-aged and childless when Shelly becomes pregnant. After the birth of their son, Jacob, they move from California to New Zealand to raise their son in a quiet, peaceful, small town environment. While in New Zealand, they establish the “Jacobs Destiny” vineyard and winery.

At a very young age, Jacob falls in love with baseball and decides that he is going to be a Major League Baseball player. Jacobs’ hero is Dodgers’ left-handed hall-of-fame pitcher, Sandy Koufax. Although naturally right-handed, Jacob teaches himself to pitch both left-handed and right-handed.

At age 17, Jacob is drafted by the San Diego Padres, spends a few months in the Padres’ minor league system under the constant tutelage of baseball great Lou Piniella, is called-up to the San Diego Padres and leads the Padres to their first ever World Series Championship.

Jacobs Destiny is a pure baseball story. The developing familial relationships of Lou and Anita Piniella and the Wyatt family as Jacob progresses from minor league star to World Series Champion is told by Chris Berman and Harris Faulkner.

## **Opening Scene**

**Chris Berman –** As previously announced, we have made a schedule change today in order to bring you a very special documentary presentation. The last century has seen some dramatic changes in competitive sports. Many of those changes can be directly attributed to the effect of television and money on the athletes. Some of those changes came as a result of the dominance of a

single player on his or her sport. Without question, Tiger Woods changed the way his competitors approach his game. Professional Football was forever altered when Bill Walsh introduced the "West Coast Offense". Wayne Gretzky electrified hockey while attracting millions of new fans to a game that was previously lacking. Basketball has seen many changes, from Michael Jordan to Magic Johnson and Larry Bird, going back to Wilt Chamberlain, who not only changed the game, but caused the league to change the rules of the game.

It was said over a century ago that Babe Ruth was so dominant in so many ways that no other player before or since could be compared to him. The Babe could, of course, hit the baseball like none other. What some don't know is that the Babe was also an exceptionally talented pitcher and his charisma was the stuff of legend.

Although we may be a bit premature, a baseball player has presented himself who has the potential to have the same influence on his game as did Babe Ruth. Never before has any single player so completely dominated minor league baseball in so many ways as has a young man...actually a boy...from, of all places, New Zealand. As a left-handed hitter, he has demonstrated Ruth like dominance and he has been equally as dominant as a right-handed batter. If you're thinking that this special presentation is our way of introducing an offensive powerhouse, you're just wrong. If Jacob Jackson Wyatt was just a great hitter, we would not be doing this special. In fact, if he couldn't hit at all, this special would still be airing this very day.

Imagine a left-handed pitcher that has three different fastballs that are all over 100 miles per hour; one a sinking fastball, one a cut-fastball and one a rising four seam fastball. Couple that with a sharp breaking curveball and an awesome sinking change-up and the ability to seemingly locate any pitch to any spot at any time and you are beginning to get a sense of why we are presenting this documentary special. Now, imagine that you could create a mirrored image of that left-handed pitcher as a right-handed pitcher and marry the two with the left-handed Babe Ruth and his right-handed counterpart into one baseball player. Just for fun, throw in the ability to run the bases like Rickey Henderson and you have Jacob Wyatt.

Wyatt was drafted by the San Diego Padres in the second round of this year's draft. Within a day of the draft, Wyatt, along with his entire extended family were on their way to San Diego to meet with the Padres. Without any agents, the parties quickly agreed to a contract and Wyatt was assigned to the Padres' A league affiliate in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

We spoke with Padres' manager Jayce Tingler and he gave us his assessment of Jacob Wyatt:

### **Cut to Videotaped Interview**

**Jayce Tingler -**

Right after the draft, we brought in some of our top picks. We had good and thorough information on most of them. Wyatt was the one big exception. We had plenty of film and data – but he'd never really played against any highly skilled opponents. So...we really didn't know what we were getting. I had a scout screaming at us to draft the kid, saying he's "never seen any prospect at any level with his skills".

I think a lot of teams were going through the same dilemma on draft day. I was really worried about the pick, but the potential upside was so impressive...to say the least. I was pretty sure that he was going to be a long-term project, though.

So...we brought him in and put a ball in his hands. General Manager, A.J.Preller and pitching coach Larry Rothschild were with us on the field. We worked him good with his left hand and his right hand. He showed us everything that he's got.

We put a bat in his hands and put a good pitcher up against him. We ran him from home to first, second and third and clocked his times.

After the workout, we sat together for about 10 minutes and talked about what we'd just seen. Larry Rothschild wanted him on the mound right away. All of us did, but we had to remember that he's only 17 and hasn't ever faced anybody better than a New Zealand high school player. Reluctantly, we all agreed to get him signed and down to Fort Wayne right away. A.J. Preller said he was going to keep a really close eye on him. He said he had an interesting idea. I had no idea what he was talking about, and when I found out, I was shocked!

### **Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -**

So...off to Fort Wayne he went. Just a few weeks into his professional career, Wyatt was reassigned from the Fort Wayne Tin Caps to triple "A" El Paso, Texas and the El Paso Chihuahuas. While in Fort Wayne, Jacob pitched a total of 48 innings, giving up a scant 3 earned runs on 13 hits. In his 37 at bats, Wyatt had 17 hits, 8 of them home runs.

Wyatt left Fort Wayne with a .459 batting average and was 6–0 on the hill with an E.R.A. of .056. His opponents had a cumulative batting average of a whopping .090.

That's when we started trying unsuccessfully to get Wyatt to sit down with us. We ran into a familiar brick wall in the person of none other than the legendary Lou Piniella. This is where our story gets a little strange. Remember what Jayce Tingler said about the Padres' General Manager, A.J. Preller having "an interesting idea"? Well...Lou Piniella was that interesting idea. It turns out that Lou Piniella and his wife, Anita, have known Jacob Wyatt and his family for awhile and they have become friends.

Usually, minor league ballplayers are anxious to sit down with any reporter that is willing to listen to their predictions of future greatness, but not Wyatt.

As it turns out, Jacob Wyatt has his own, should be "Hall of Fame", combination personal mentor, coach and protector. Former Yankees' great and baseball legend Lou Piniella has been a constant companion of Jacob Wyatt since his early days in Fort Wayne. We talked to some of his teammates in El Paso about Jacob and Lou and their relationship:

**Cut to Videotaped Interviews in El Paso, Texas**

***Player One -***

"The night before they arrived, coach called us all together and told us that we were going to have a couple of new faces in the clubhouse. He told us about what Jake did in Indiana and about how hard he throws, and he told us that Lou was baseball royalty and that we'd better treat him with respect."

***Player Two -***

"Yeah...we knew things were gonna change, but we had no idea how much. Jake was real nice from the beginning. Coach introduced him and he went around and said hi to everybody. It was different with Piniella, though."

**Player One -** “Lou walked in and said, ‘who’s catching tonight’? He went straight up to Javier and started hammering him with questions and instructions. Jordan was taking a day with his family before he came down to El Paso. I thought Javier was going to have a freakin’ heart attack.”

**Player Two -** “Yeah...Jake finally saw what was goin’ on and went over to Javier and said ‘hi’. While they went into coaches’ office, we all looked at each other and chuckled a bit.”

**Player One -** “None of us liked the kid at first. We all thought he was just a bonus baby, prima donna. We all expected him to be an overrated snob, until we saw him pitch. Then, we were all glad that he’s on our team!”

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** If you’re wondering, Wyatt continued to tear up the minor leagues in El Paso. He’s still undefeated from the mound, still hitting over .400 from both sides of the plate, still has an ERA of less than one and still hitting home runs every five or six at bats.

Tonight in San Francisco, Jacob Wyatt makes his major league debut, and that’s the reason that we have accelerated the airing of this special presentation. We will be introducing you to this special young man, but first we are going to introduce you to his family by way of an amazing interview courtesy of Fox News and Harris Faulkner. Harris has been friends with the Wyatt family for years – long before Jacob began his professional baseball career.

As an aside, I have been trying in earnest to get an interview with Jacob Wyatt for months. Finally, I frustrated Lou Piniella to the point that he gave me Shelly Wyatt’s phone number and told me to stop calling him (laughing). He told me that the only way I was going to get the interview was if Jacob’s parents gave the OK! So...I called Shelly...and...she invited me to New Zealand. Actually... she rather insisted that I meet with them. Very reluctantly, I agreed and headed down to New Zealand.

I really didn't know what to expect...but... I was overwhelmed by the warmth and kindness of the Wyatt family. They were at the airport when I arrived, and they greeted me with hugs. They were an open book, but they seemed more genuinely interested in me and my family than they were in talking about themselves. I enjoyed my time with the Wyatt family so much that I extended my stay. Larry and Shelly and I talk on the phone regularly. I now consider Larry and Shelly Wyatt to be personal friends.

Back to the point...this is Harris Faulkner. Hello Harris.

**Cut to Harris Faulkner in the Fox News Studios**

**Harris -** Hi Chris, and hello ESPN viewers. Aren't the Wyatt's just the nicest people?

**Chris -** They're just terrific. Truly genuine and kind.

**Harris -** I'm glad that you got a chance to get to know them. Now you know why we've been friends for so long.

**Chris -** I do!

**Harris -** Chris...tonight, we're going to take our viewers to Cloister, New Zealand and the home of Jacob, Larry and Shelly Wyatt and to El Paso, Texas, the temporary residence of Jacob Wyatt and Lou Piniella.

If you like baseball, you're going to love the story we are about to tell tonight. If you don't like baseball, you will be no less fascinated by the unique and interesting story of an American family in New Zealand and their loving devotion to each other. Either way, this special documentary will unquestionably touch you deeply and cause you to take a new look at how you treat your friends and family.

The story we are going to New Zealand to tell is the story of a remarkable couple, their very unexpected mid-life gift, the changes they made in their lives and the love they have given and received within their extended family. I met Larry and Shelly several years ago through a mutual friend. Later, when I was visiting them in New Zealand, I met their son, Jacob. He told me about how he loved baseball and planned on being a major league player. I thought he was just a cute kid with a boyish dream. I had no idea just how gifted he is. Throughout this interview, we will be checking in with Chris Berman and the ESPN baseball analysts to keep you up to date with the debut performance of Jacob Wyatt as he leads the San Diego Padres against the San Francisco Giants. Enjoy the interview!

### **Cut to the New Zealand Interview**

- Harris -** Welcome to Cloister New Zealand. This is Larry and Shelly Wyatt. Larry and Shelly are the parents of baseball player Jacob Wyatt of the El Paso Chihuahuas. The Chihuahuas are the triple "A" affiliate of the San Diego Padres.
- Harris -** (To Larry & Shelly). Hi guys.
- Larry & Shelly -** Hello, Harris.
- Harris -** Let's get started right at the beginning...Shelly...tell us how you and Larry met.
- Shelly -** Oh my! Do I really want to tell you this embarrassing story?
- Harris -** Yes...you do.

**Larry -** (Laughing). No. You absolutely DO NOT want to tell the world THAT story!

**Shelly -** (Laughing). Baby, I have to tell the story. It's our beginning...the first step in a lifelong devotion to each other. It's how we came to be and how Jacob came to be. It's why you love me and...

**Larry -** It's not why I love you. It's why we met, but it's not why I love you.

**Shelly -** Liar!

**Harris -** OK, now you've got to tell the story.

**Larry -** No! I'll tell the story.

**Shelly -** (leaning back and smiling, with arms crossed). Go ahead, dumbass!

**Harris -** Larry...

**Larry -** So, I saw Shelly sitting on a chair in the kitchen at a house party when we were in college. She was looking so beautiful, and I just felt like I needed to tell her how beautiful she was, but it came out so wrong and I said something crude and...

**Shelly -** If you're not going to tell the story, then I will.

**Larry -** ...instead of complimenting her and expressing my appreciation...



**Shelly -** He said he had to have some of my ass! (Bleeped).

**Harris -** What?!

**Shelly -** Yeah.

**Larry -** That's not what I said.

**Shelly -** No. What he actually said is that I have an incredible ass (Bleeped) and that he had to have some of it.

**Harris -** No way!

**Larry -** You have to understand, I was trying to express my undying love for...

**Harris -** Your undying love?

**Larry -** (With Shelly laughing uncontrollably) Yeah. Ok, I was a little messed up and young and stupid and...

**Shelly -** Quit babbling and tell the truth.

**Harris -** So, dare I ask, what's the truth?

**Larry -** (Shelly still laughing) The truth is I was...aw, what the hell, I was a stupid, drunken fool and I didn't know what I was doing at the time. But thank God

I did what I did and said what I said, 'cause it led me to the love of my life and I shouldn't have to apologize for that.

**Harris -** That's almost very sweet. (Turning to Shelly) And that's why you fell in love with Larry?

**Shelly -** There's a little more to the story than that, Harris.

**Larry -** Yeah...she put me through hell for that. I became a begging little fool after than stupid come-on. For a while, I didn't even understand why I was so obsessed with redeeming myself. Then, she kissed me, and I was eternally lost.

**Harris -** Wow. You really do know how to turn lemons into lemonade.

**Larry -** Naw...I had to get her drunk for that kiss.

**Harris -** (Giggling) I'm beginning to regret asking about how you two met. Let's leave that behind us and move forward.

**Shelly -** Thanks for that!

**Harris -** I'm going to try to get around the whole "how you met" thing. So, Larry, I understand you went to college together.

**Larry -** (Jokingly). I'm so glad you asked, Harris. Yes, we are alums of KU. We both, for reasons unknown, chose Lawrence, Kansas as the place to acquire the great knowledge and wisdom upon which to base our futures. Actually, we're very proud to be grads of KU.

- Shelly -** We were married during the Christmas break of our junior year. We left right after finals and drove down to Texas, where his father married us. I had never been out of Kansas until that day. We honeymooned in an old cabin on a lake in Texas and went back to Kansas in time to finish out our junior year.
- Harris -** OK...so far, your story sounds like the typical American love story.
- Shelly -** It really is, Harris. In fact, our lives were really just the typical American lives, before Jacob came along.
- Harris -** Well...maybe that was true, but we're not in America and your lives are anything but typical.
- Larry -** Perhaps our lives are no longer typical, but for over 40 years, we were very typically American. We're still all American, and aside from having an exceptional son, we live lives that are very much like most other Americans.
- Shelly -** (laughing). Yeah...sure we do!
- Larry -** Except for baseball.
- Harris -** Let's get back to your early years, you had to have done very well to afford all of this (waving and looking around).
- Larry -** We got really lucky.

**Harris -**

Lucky?

**Shelly -**

We really did. After college, Larry got a job offer from some guy he had met that was starting up some unknown computer company in San Jose, California. It didn't pay badly, and it promised a bunch of company stock. I started out as an administrative assistant for an insurance company and decided to get my real estate license to try to supplement our incomes. Real estate was really booming, so I soon quit the insurance company in favor of selling real estate full time.

**Harris -**

"Some unknown computer company"?

**Larry -**

Yeah...I told you we got really lucky!

**Harris -**

And, that company stock?

**Larry -**

(Smiling big) It turned out to be worth a lot more we ever dreamed we would make in a lifetime of hard work.

**Harris -**

I've heard about guys like you.

**Larry -**

Dumb luck on my part – but it turns out that Shelly is much more than just a...aaah...pretty face! (everybody laughing). She's an investment wizard. I wanted to buy a boat and spend all of our time on the water – but she somehow convinced me to go along with her scheme to buy investment real estate and invest in some other start-up high tech stocks. On my part, it was pure dumb luck, but she has a real talent for investing.

**Shelly -**

You know...a lot of that was dumb luck, too. Back then, income property values were skyrocketing and computers were booming. Larry knew a lot of

people in the Silicon Valley, so a lot of that was just being in the right place at the right time.

**Harris -**

Wow! So that's how you were able to afford all this.

**Larry -**

Yes and no. Yes – the money we had bought this property, but the vineyard and winery built most of what you see.

**Harris -**

Oh?

**Shelly -**

When we got to New Zealand, the only thing here was the old farmhouse and some abandoned grape vines. We budgeted to build the house and some resources to get the vineyard and winery started, but that's it. We agreed that it had to carry itself and it has.

**Harris -**

I should let everybody know that this pristine setting is the home of the "Jacobs Destiny" winery and that it is named for Larry and Shelly's son, Jacob. I suppose this was all just dumb luck too?

**Larry -**

No – we worked our butts off to get this going. You know, when we moved here, it was to retire and raise our son in a peaceful, quiet place. Then, Shelly got the idea that we should...I mean, that I should become some kind of a "gentleman farmer". Now...we've always had a love of good wines. We spent some time in the Napa valley, Sonoma and even in Santa Barbara and got to know some of the wine makers at events that Shelly would drag me off to.

**Shelly -**

I didn't drag him off to anything, Harris! He loves going to wine tasting events as much as I do, and he knows it. (To Larry), and...don't imagine that I didn't notice that "scheme" comment, dumbass!

**Harris -** Alright then – let's go back a little bit. What made you decide to move across the world? What happened that made you move here, Shelly?

**Shelly -** (Pause, looking serious). Like most young couples, we expected to have children in our twenties and raise our kids in our twenties and thirties like normal people do. We tried, but the doctors told me that I would never be able to conceive. As you can imagine, we were devastated. We wanted to adopt but found out it wasn't particularly easy. Finally, we met with an adoption attorney. He said something rude to me and Larry broke his nose. We wound up paying him to settle his threatened lawsuit. It turns out his huge ego and the threat of causing him embarrassment saved us a lot of money. But we agreed that we would no longer pursue adoption.

**Larry -** (Smirking). The guy was a scumbag, ambulance chaser and he got what he deserved.

**Harris -** So you punched him in the nose?

**Larry -** Yep! The only thing I regret is that we had to pay the little weasel. It was worth it, though.

**Shelly -** Anyways, we knew that we would never have kids, so we got on with our lives.

**Larry -** Then, wham! We were in our late forties and Shelly's pregnant.

**Harris -** Wham?

**Larry -** Wham, indeed! Very unexpected and initially unwelcomed. We spend days in stunned silence.

**Harris -**

OK...then what?

**Shelly -**

That was all Larry. He got up one morning and announced that he always wanted to be a father and that he knows that I have always wanted to be a mom and that we were not going to allow our advanced age to deprive us of the joy of parenthood. He went on a long rant about how this was a mid-life gift and a miraculous opportunity to completely change our lives to enjoy parenthood in a way that was not possible during the productive, working years of our youth.

**Larry -**

Yeah...remember that quiet, peaceful retirement I was talking about?

**Harris -**

(Laughing). So...you decided to move to New Zealand, retire and enjoy parenthood?

**Shelly -**

Sort of...before we found out that I was pregnant, we had planned a nice, long vacation. We wanted to travel the world and see all of the places we always wanted to see. Larry got into another long rant about finding the ideal place to raise our child. So, it became a quest to find the ideal place to raise a kid.

**Larry -**

I really liked Australia until I found out about all of the deadly, poisonous snakes there.

**Shelly -**

Larry has an unnatural fear of snakes. A true phobia! He freaks out if a snake is on the TV. (laughter)

**Larry -**

Did you know that there are no snakes in New Zealand?

**Harris -** (Still laughing) Then you picked New Zealand because there are no snakes here?

**Larry -** It was either here or Ireland, and the weather is better here.

**Harris -** (Everybody still laughing). Let's talk a bit about your son, Jacob. I understand that he's quite a baseball player.

**Larry -** Oh yeah (his face lighting up with pride). That is, of course, why you're here. He is going to be a huge superstar!

**Shelly -** Come on, Larry. We talked about not putting pressure on him!

**Larry -** I can't help it. We knew he was really good. We knew he was going to be very special. But look at what he's been doing in pro ball. We knew he was good, but he's been unbelievably good! It won't be long before San Diego calls him up...and he's going to be unbelievably good.

**Harris -** You know...I took a little trip to El Paso to see Jacob about two weeks ago.

**Shelly -** Oh yeah...we heard all about it.

**Harris -** As an aside, the guys from ESPN invited me to join them to see Jacob. Those guys are a lot of fun. They gave me a really hard time, but it was all in fun.

**Shelly -** We heard. We're very proud of the way that Jacob defended you, Harris.



**Harris -** (Ignoring Shelly's comment about Jacob defending her.) That's when I found out just how good Jacob is. Those ESPN guys really know baseball, and they wouldn't stop talking about Jacob using superlatives and making comparisons to the best players ever. It would always end with unanimous agreement that he's a better pitcher, hitter, runner, whatever, than anyone who's ever played.

**Shelly -** You're not helping, Harris. He's going to see this, and I don't want him getting hurt. He may be all of those things to others, but he's still my little boy.

**Harris -** You sound a bit like Lou Piniella.

**Shelly -** Thank God for Lou. He's the one baseball guy that cares enough about Jacob to keep his head from getting too big. You know, Jacob is only 17 and the guys he's playing with average about 25. He's just out of high school!

**Larry -** This was all going to happen and he knows it, baby. It was inevitable. He's a smart kid. He can handle it.

**Shelly -** Stop it, dumbass. You're as freaked out as I am.

**Larry -** Yeah, but he's not.

**Harris -** You know...amazingly...he's really not. Whenever the ESPN guys would start building him up, he'd become a little bit embarrassed and he'd remind them that he's only 17 and that he's never played an inning of major league baseball. He would remind them of all of the other young guys before him that didn't amount to much.

**Larry -** We tried really hard to prepare him for this.

**Shelly -** (Groaning, with head in hands)

**Harris -** Let's go back to Jacobs' youth. Why is he so good? What made him so good?

**Cut to Flashback Scene**

Drift back to memories of Jacob throwing rubber baseballs against the garage door and Larry catching Jacob when he was young and icing his hand to reduce the swelling. Flash to sitting in the stands watching as Jacob pitches his first game in little league. Jacob is 9, playing with and against kids that are 11 and 12. Larry and Shelly look at each other in the stands.

**Shelly -** (To Larry). "Can you believe this?" "This is scary!"

**Larry -** (To Shelly). "Really scary".

**Shelly -** (To Larry). "We're gonna have to do something to keep him grounded".

**Larry -** (To Shelly). "Yeah...good luck with that"!

**Cut Back to the Interview**

**Shelly -** He made himself so good, Harris. We tried really hard to redirect his passion for baseball to a passion for other things. We'd ask, "what if there was no baseball"? He'd say, "I don't know mom, but there is baseball".

**Harris -** Interestingly, Shelly, when I asked Jacob about how he became so obsessed with baseball, his answer was very interesting:

**Cut to clip from El Paso Interview**

**Harris -** What made you become so obsessed with baseball?

**Jacob -** That's easy – it was Ken Burns.

**Harris -** Ken Burns?

**Jacob –** Absolutely! Ken Burns did a documentary on the history of baseball. The video is stunning. The interviews are amazing and the story is so beautifully told that you just can't watch it and not fall in love with the game. It's broken down into innings. It starts out with the first known organized baseball games that were played in New Jersey...the early years with guys like Christy Mattheson, and then Babe Ruth, Ted Williams, Lou Gehrig and so on. He even talks about what a horrible pig of a human being Ty Cobb was and the early Negro Leagues.

You can't help but imagine about how different the history of baseball would be if guys like Satchel Paige would have played their prime years in Major League baseball.

I've watched it so many times that I've lost count. My dad acquired some old film of the early baseball games. My mom even got me some of the music that Ken Burns used in his documentary.

(Singing) *"Did you see Jackie Robinson hit that ball?" "Did he hit it?" "Yeah!" "But that ain't all...he stole home."*

**Cut back to New Zealand Interview**

- Shelly -** (With everybody laughing). I can't believe that you got Jacob to sing.
- Harris -** I didn't do anything. That was ALL Jacob. Getting back to my question about how Jacob became so good at baseball. You said that he made himself so good.
- Larry -** You've gotta understand, Harris...he's been sculpting and building his body for baseball and perfecting his pitching motion and batting stance and swing since he was 7. He gets up at 5:00 in the morning every day and starts working out before we get out of bed.
- Harris -** Since he was 7? That seems a little bit extreme.
- Shelly -** A little bit? It's ridiculous! You have no idea how hard we've worked at trying to get him to just relax and be a normal kid. We clearly lost that battle.
- Larry -** As proud as we are of Jacob, and as much as we have to admit that all of his obsessive hard work has made him this good, we sometimes feel like we failed to give him a normal childhood.
- Shelly -** I don't. It's not that we failed to give him a normal childhood. We pressed and pushed and disciplined him and fought with him and lost! You have no idea how stubborn and strong-willed Jacob is. He decided when he was very young that he wanted to be a Major League baseball player and he has not waived for even a moment. He just refused to have a normal childhood.
- Harris -** Sounds like you're living through a strange combination of frustration, pride and admiration.

**Shelly -** Oh GOD...yes! All of that and some confusion. I want so badly to bring him home and just hold onto him...you know...keep him to myself. He's only been gone for two months, but sometimes I wish he would just come home and never leave. But...this thing is like a runaway train with Jacob standing on the throttle. There's just nothing that we can do to slow this thing down. Jacob's the conductor...and all we can do is watch and pray that the train doesn't crash.

**Larry -** (Giggling). She's right, Harris. We really tried to derail his train – then to slow it down, but he wouldn't have it.

**Shelly -** (Jokingly). So...here we are...a couple of old control freaks that have completely failed to EVER have ANY control of our son...and thank God for that. He's done so much better than we would have.

**Harris -** Yep! Frustration and confusion...but mostly pride and admiration.

**Larry -** There it is. You've summed it all up. I guess we're done here. Thanks for coming!

**Harris -** Oh no...nice try, Larry, but we're not close to being done here.

**Cut to Harris in the Fox News Studios**

**Harris -** We are going to take a quick commercial break. When we come back, we'll continue with the Wyatt family in Cloister, New Zealand and we will introduce you to Jacob Wyatt. Stay tuned...you don't want to miss any of this.

**Cut to Television Commercial**

(During the commercial, Chris Berman and Harris Faulkner talk)

**Chris Berman -** Perfect break point, Harris. It's been a great warm up so far.

**Harris -** I think it's got people interested. I don't imagine we'll lose any audience.

**Chris Berman -** If they leave now, they're fools. The next bit with Jacob and Lou in El Paso is going to be terrific.

**Harris -** You've gotta love the kid. He's going to be enormously famous and loved when this night is done, no matter what happens in San Francisco.

**Chris Berman -** True...but most baseball purists will quickly lose interest if he doesn't live up to the hype we're giving him.

**Harris -** From what I've seen and from what your guys tell me, there's very little chance of that.

**Chris Berman -** We're coming back. Knock 'em dead, Harris.

**Harris -** Thanks, Chris.

**Cut back to Harris in the Fox News Studio**

**Harris -** (Shuffling and preparing for the return of the audience.) Welcome back. Now that you've had a taste of the Wyatt family in New Zealand, we're going to start to introduce you to Jacob Wyatt. We caught up with Jacob and Lou

Piniella at home in El Paso, Texas. By home, we mean the RV park that they temporarily call home. Enjoy!

**Cut to the Trailer Park in El Paso, Texas**

**Harris -** Welcome to El Paso, Texas and the “River View RV Park”. These are the temporary homes of Jacob Wyatt and Lou and Anita Piniella and this is Jacob and Lou. Hi guys!

**Jacob and Lou -** Hello Harris.

**Harris -** So this is home?

**Jacob -** Can you believe that we got Mr. Piniella to live in a trailer park?

**Harris -** This is really nice. This is not like any trailer park I’ve seen.

**Lou -** You kiddin? This beats the hell out of the hotels that we’re stuck in when we’re on the road.

**Harris -** I’ll bet.

**Jacob -** We talked a lot about what it’s like to play minor league baseball and my mom wanted me to have a “home away from home”. My dad picked out these Winnebago’s about a year ago and we love ‘em.

**Lou -** You should get Jacob to give you a tour and show you how his parents tricked these things out.

**Harris -** That's a good idea. (To the crew) You guys up for a tour? (Without waiting for an answer)

**Jacob -** (Jacob rises from his chair and pulls out Harris' chair, holds out his hand to help her up and puts her arm around his). It will be my pleasure to give you a tour. Please follow me. (Jacob leads Harris into his Winnebago. There is much commotion as the film and sound crews try to keep up. They proceed to the back of the Winnebago, in Jacobs' bedroom).

**Jacob -** This is my bedroom. As you can see, it is quite spacious, despite the king sized, sleep numbers bed. Mr. And Mrs. Piniella and I love these beds. None of us have ever had a sleep numbers bed, and these Winnebago's come standard with them. From now on, none of us are going to go without a sleep numbers bed.

**Harris -** Wow, this really is nice.

**Jacob -** This is my bathroom.

**Harris -** It must be a little difficult for you, as big as you are.

**Jacob -** Not really. Mom had our showers adjusted with the shower head in the ceiling to accommodate our height. It's really very comfortable. Besides, there are always showers in the trailer parks and locker rooms at the ballparks.

**Jacob -** (More commotion, as the film and sound crews back out of the bedroom/bathroom areas). This is my kitchen. It's really very roomy and it has a full-sized refrigerator and microwave. Dad had a reverse osmosis system installed, so my drinking water is purified and my ice maker feeds



from the system, so my ice cubes are clean. It even has a system underneath that removes the chlorine and softens the water.

**Harris -** This really is big. Is this where you spend your time when you're not playing ball? (waving toward the living room).

**Jacob -** Only when it's raining. It's a nice, big, living room, but we're only in here if it's not nice outside. Otherwise, we spend most of our time outside, on the patio. Dad hooked us up with a killer audio/video system that is fully compatible with all of our Apple devices and had ultra-HDTV systems installed outside, so we can do all of our scouting out on the patio.

**Harris -** Wow! This is really a nice set-up. Is Lou and Anita's Winnebago the same as yours?

**Jacob -** Yes and no. They're both the same size and they are equipped with the same comfort features and technologies, but they are actually laid out a little differently. We're always arguing about who has the nicest Winnebago.

**Harris -** By the way, where is Anita?

**Lou -** Hiding out!

**Harris -** (Laughing) Thanks for the tour, Jacob.

**Jacob -** It was my pleasure, ma'am.

(Pause with great commotion as they get resettled outside the motor homes.)

**Harris -** (To Jacob). You seem to be very close to Jordan Parker and his family.

**Jacob -** Very!

**Harris -** I'm told that you're the only minor league pitcher that has his own catcher.

**Jacob -** Yeah, that's another thing that I can thank Mr. Piniella for. The Padres sent down their top minor league catcher to work with us, but he was a big bust. He didn't like me at all, and he was really pissed off about being sent down to the "A" leagues. It was a really bad fit. Mr. Piniella got ahold of the Padres' office and went through their catchers. He found Jordan and got him moved down to Fort Wayne.

Jordan makes me a better baseball player and a better human being. His impact on me and on everybody that knows him is profound. We really love Jordan, his wife Sheree and his son Josh. 'Ya know...our family has really grown this year. Mr. and Mrs. Piniella, Jordan, Sheree and Josh are all family now and we're all better and closer now.

**Lou -** That kid's a helluva ballplayer and he made a huge sacrifice going back to the "A" leagues. He had just moved from double A to triple A when we called him out. He was one step from the show when we got him to move back to playing with a bunch of rookies. You want a great baseball human interest story... go talk to Jordan Parker. He's the real deal. Other teams are trying to get the Padres to trade him away. He sacrificed the idea of being an everyday ball player for playing every three days. He's bought into what we're doing 100%. Yeah...that kid's the real deal!

**Jacob -** He's right! Jordan's the guy that you ought to be talking to.

**Harris -** We'll have to do that. (To Jacob). I'm told that Jordan spends a lot of time here with you.

**Jacob -**

Yes ma'am...most of the time he winds up sleeping in the living room on the sofa bed. We offered to get him a Winnebago too, but he won't let us do it. He says that he likes my sofa bed and Mrs. Piniella's cooking, but he says that he wants to wait and get a house in San Diego when we get called up, so that he can get Sheree and Josh to move up from Atlanta.

**Lou -**

Yeah...I don't think that's going to happen. She's lived in Atlanta all of her life and her whole family's there. (Pause). Baseball's tough on families. Just ask Anita!

**Cut to Harris in the Fox News Studios**

**Harris -**

Can you believe how nice and polite he is? We're going to take another break. When we come back, we will return to our interviews in El Paso, Texas and Cloister, New Zealand.

**Cut to ESPN and Fox News Studios (Split Screen)**

**Harris -**

Welcome back. With me now is Chris Berman with ESPN. Hi Chris.

**Chris Berman -**

Hi, Harris. I've gotta thank you for the job you did on this interview. It's a remarkable interview and the family really opened up for you. You know...I've watched this interview several times and I still can't take my eyes off of the screen here. It's about to get really good and I want everybody to know that you just don't want to miss out on the rest of this interview.

**Harris -** Thanks, Chris. How's it going in San Francisco?

**Chris Berman -** (Looking over at the screen at the game). We're going to have an update for you very soon, Harris. Jacob will soon be stepping into the batters' box for the first time, and I know that you won't want to miss that.

**Harris -** That's for sure, Chris. Let us know when you're ready to update us. Until then, we'll go back to New Zealand and continue our interview with the Wyatt family.

### **Back to the New Zealand Interview**

**Harris -** Welcome back to Cloister, New Zealand. As you can see, Shelly has broken out the wine and we now have some more family members to introduce to you. Shelly...you want to make the introductions?

**Shelly -** Yes...I do! This is our adopted brother, Freddie J and our adopted daughter, Fuji. Actually... Freddie J is our best friend and an important part of our family and Fuji is his adopted daughter. We can't imagine what our lives would be like without them.

**Harris -** You all talk as though you really are family.

**(ALL) -** We are!

**Harris -** Wow! Take it easy, now. I won't suggest that you're not family again.

**Harris -** Clearly, you all take family bonds very seriously.

**Larry -** That's the one thing that Jacob loves more than baseball...his family.

**Harris -** (smiling). I sensed that.

**Freddie J -** That's probably because the most important thing that was ever said to Jacob and to all of us...it's the biggest reason that we're all so serious about our family. We always have dinner together and we always pray before we eat. After prayer, Larry always says the same thing to us. He says, "always remember that no matter what happens in our lives, the only people in this world that you can always count on are at this table, your family".

**Fuji -** Definitely!

**Harris -** She speaks! (Everybody laughing).

**Harris -** (To the camera). I have to tell you that I've been here for a day before our production crew arrived, and Fuji doesn't talk a lot.

**Fuji -** If you hadn't noticed, this is a family of talkers. It can be a bit difficult to get a word in when everybody gets going. (Laughing).

**Harris -** I was worried about getting you involved in the conversation. I have prepared questions...and you just sat down and jumped right in!

**Fuji -** It was my dad. He said "probably". That Larry saying that "the people sitting at this table, your family" are the ones in this world that you can count on. Not "probably". Definitely the most important thing that we ever heard...and

we heard it every night (Tears forming in her eyes). That's definitely the biggest reason we are such a close family. We all have a daily reminder that our family is the most important thing in this world (Everybody quiet – tearing – smiles).

**Harris -** You all keep saying something interesting. All of you say in “this” world, with the emphasis on the word “this” (long pause).

**Harris -** Well...? (as her eyes scan theirs)

**Larry -** Yeah...that's because of Freddie J. I made the mistake early on of saying “the” world instead of “this” world. My dad was a Texas panhandle preacher and Freddie J was a part time pastor. I got it right away, and I substituted “this” world for “the” world. And...I don't ever say it until after Freddie J prays! (laughter). (Jokingly) I made that mistake once, too!

**Harris -** (To Freddie J) Then - you're the spiritual leader of the family.

**Freddie J -** That's my place – that's my role, the most important job I have.

**Larry -** (smiling – more of a smirk) Whether we like it or not!

**Freddie J -** That's right! (laughter)

**Shelly -** You two are such children...just like little boys.

**Harris -** Almost like brothers.

**Shelly -** Exactly like brothers! (pause).

**Cut to ESPN and Fox News Studios (Split Screen)**

**Harris -** We're going to go now to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studio for an update on Jacob's major league debut in San Francisco tonight. Chris.

**Chris Berman -** Thank you Harris. We're going to bring you up to date on the happenings in San Francisco. The first two innings were uneventful. Wyatt has given up one hit, a lead-off, infield single in the first. He's struck out four and there's no score. That brings us to the top of the third. The leadoff hitter was walked after fouling off several pitches. That brings us to Wyatt's first major league at bat, with one on and nobody out. We're not going to tell you about it...we are taking you to San Francisco to let you see it for yourself.

**Cut to Videotaped Broadcast of the Game**

**Don Orsillo -** Well...here we go. Fastball...taken outside for ball one. Mark...it looks like (Giants' pitcher) is going to be very careful with Wyatt.

**Mark Grant -** Normally, I'd say you're right. But, with the leadoff hitter drawing a walk, I don't think he wants to face the top of the Padres' order with two on and nobody out.

**Don Orsillo -** (Giants' pitcher) into the stretch. The pitch...oh my...high drive to deep left center...forget about it...this one's gone! What a blast! There was never a doubt about this one. That was a shot!

### **Back to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studio**

- Chris Berman -** There you have it, (with video of Jacob rounding the bases). After a near perfect two innings on the hill, Jacob Wyatt takes to the plate for the first time and goes yard to give himself a two-run lead in the third. Whaddaya think, (baseball analyst)?
- ESPN Analyst -** I think if you're a Padres' fan, you just pulled your Pods gear out of the closet and dusted it off and I think Dodgers' fans just started biting their nails. The N.L. West just became a race, if it wasn't before.
- Chris Berman -** It's only been two innings, but Wyatt has been absolutely dominating on the mound.
- ESPN Analyst -** That lead-off single was a fluke. Wyatt has been getting that rookie strike zone, and he fell behind to the first batter on pitches that should have been called strikes. That single was an "excuse me" dribbler just out of the reach of the third baseman, fielded by Tatis in shallow left field. He really didn't get much of it.
- Chris Berman -** Since that lead-off single, the Giants' batters have been completely overmatched.
- ESPN Analyst -** Completely! There has not been one good, quality swing. Wyatt has been dominating in a way that you rarely see any more. His stuff and his pitch placement have completely overwhelmed the Giants' hitters.
- Chris Berman -** Harris...we sent some guys out to San Diego to report on the reaction of Pods fans as they watch the game from "The Bullpen Bar & Grill". Watch this!



**Cut to “The Bullpen Bar & Grill” Sports Bar in San Diego**

**Crowd -** (Video of sports bar crowd watching as Jacob homers on his first at bat. The crowd erupts wildly).

**San Diego Reporter-** Hello Chris and Harris and welcome to “The Bullpen Bar & Grill”. There’s some rabid Padres’ fans here (as bar crowd erupts). They’re watching this game in San Francisco with the excitement you might expect from a game 7 of the World Series. Listening to these Padres’ fans, you’d think that the Pods were on the brink of a World Series Championship.

**Padres Fan 1 -** They are on the brink. Jacob Wyatt is the best player ever! We’re on our way, baby (as the crowd erupts again).

**Padres Fan 2 -** We’ve been waiting patiently for him to arrive. We’ve been waiting, but our time is now. He’s a Pod now, and we can’t be stopped.

**San Diego Reporter -** Chris...this crowd really believes that the Padres are unstoppable now. They really believe that this is their year and that there will be many Championships in their future.

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** Do they realize that there’s not a lot of baseball to be played this season and that the Padres are 8 games back in the West?

**Cut to “The Bullpen Bar & Grill” Sports Bar in San Diego**

**San Diego Reporter -** (To Padres' Fan 2). You do know that the Pods are still 8 back in the West, right?

**Padres Fan 2 -** It doesn't matter. I went up to Fort Wayne when Wyatt was there, and I tried to talk to him. Piniella got in my face and told me to "get away before I kick your ass"! He flipped me a ball signed by Wyatt and told me to "get lost". After the game, I got Piniella to sign it too. (Holding up the ball). This ball is going back on my mantle. It's going to be very valuable someday.

**Padres Fan 1 -** Check this out...I've got an autographed bottle of "Jacobs Destiny" wine!

**Padres Fan 2 -** Let's have a drink.

**Padres Fan 1 -** Sure, (to Padres' Fan 2). Right after we take a little BP with your baseball.

**Chicago Reporter -** Yeah...I don't think so, Chris. They seem to think that it's all over and that they've won it.

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** Thanks, (San Diego Reporter). There you have it, Harris. Your interview just got even more interesting.

**Cut to ESPN and Fox News Studios (Split Screen)**

**Harris -** Thanks, Chris...and we'll be checking in with you to see how things go in San Francisco.

**Chris Berman -** We'll be here Harris. We're all glued to the screen, watching this kid with great interest.

**Harris -** It's no different here, Chris. It's interesting how many people are suddenly lifelong Padres' fans.

**Chris Berman -** Yeah...you're gonna see a lot of that, Harris. But...there really are a lot of lifelong Padres' fans and they're spread out all over the world. Every Major League ballclub has loyal fans everywhere. They've been in hiding, but I suspect that they're going to become very vocal now!

**Harris -** Thanks again, Chris. Keep us posted.

**Chris Berman -** Will do!

**Harris -** Ok then...enjoy the rest of the interview, folks. We're going back to Cloister, New Zealand.

**Cut to the New Zealand Interview**

**Harris -** (To Freddie J). Has it always been like this or is this something that has developed over the years?

**Freddie J -** It's pretty much always been like this, Harris. Shelly and I met quite by accident at the grocery store. I invited her to bring Larry to church and she invited me to meet Larry at the old farm house. She declined my invitation, but I accepted hers in hope of convincing them to attend our church. You know...they never did come to church.

**Harris -** (To Larry). How rude!

**Larry -** Oops...so sorry.

**Freddie J -** (Laughing). Yeah, sure!

**Shelly -** I told you they were like little boys, Harris. (Harris nodding).

**Freddie J -** (As though never interrupted) We had coffee and wandered around for a while, and they told me about their plans for this place. They said they were going back to California until Jacob was old enough to travel and that they needed somebody to oversee the construction of their home while they were gone. I knew their contractor and agreed to work for them in their absence.

**Shelly -** We are so glad that we found Freddie J. We couldn't have done all of this without him. He's been a second father for Jacob, and he brought Fuji into our lives. We just can't imagine what our lives would be like without Freddie J and Fuji.

**Larry -** Especially Fuji. (With a smirk).

**Shelly -** You're an ass!

**Harris -** I see what you mean. (To Shelly).

**Shelly -** It never stops, Harris...but, don't let them fool you. When Freddie J was shot in the neck with a nail gun, I thought Larry was going to have a stroke. He held his head in his arms all the way to the hospital like he was cradling a baby...and wouldn't let go until the doctors at the hospital peeled his arms off of him. Then, he sat outside the emergency room and sobbed. They treat each other like brothers – but they also love each other like brothers.

**Harris -** Shot in the neck with a nail gun?

**Larry -** Yeah...so sorry about that! (with a big smirking grin).

**Shelly -** Larry didn't shoot him...it was an accident. We were making some upgrades to the old farm house and one of the workers accidentally shot Freddie J with the nail gun.

**Harris -** OK. Well...Fuji...we now know how Freddie J became a part of this family, how did you come to be a part of this family?

**Fuji -** I didn't have a choice...I was adopted into this family when I was three. (Pause, with laughter). The only things that I remember about my life prior to my adoption are the stories they have told me, so, from my vantage point, I've always been a part of this family.

**Harris -** I understand that Fuji is not your given name.

**Fuji -** No, it's not. My name is Angelica. I have Jackie to thank for everybody calling me Fuji. Jackie was just a year old when I was adopted. He couldn't

say “Angelica” and he mispronounced the place of my adoption, the Fiji islands. Everyone thought it was cute, so I’ve always been known as Fuji.

**Harris -** I noticed that you call him Jackie, instead of Jacob.

**Fuji -** I do. His middle name is Jackson, which is Shelly’s maiden name. I’ve just always liked Jackie.

**Harris -** Okay. I understand that you and Jackie have a very special relationship.

**Fuji -** Yes, very special. Jackie is my best friend and the only boy that I’ve ever loved. I have always known that we would be together and that we would always love each other. We have never considered making any plans for our futures that don’t include being together.

**Harris -** It must be difficult to be thousands of miles apart. (Fuji cannot answer).

**Shelly -** It has been unbelievably difficult for them, Harris. They have handled it better than we all thought they would, though. These two kids are more mature about handling the difficulties of life than any of us ever imagined that they could be.

**Larry -** Jacob would have fallen apart and come home long ago if it were not for the support of Fuji.

**Shelly -** When Jacob left to play baseball, we were all concerned about how Fuji would handle their separation. Her strength and maturity have given Jacob the strength to remain focused on baseball and on his responsibilities to his team and his teammates. We should have known that our concerns were

misplaced and that we should have focused our concerns on Jacob and not on Fuji. She's emotionally stronger than the rest of us, combined.

**Harris -** How do you do that, Fuji? How do you hold everybody else together when you're the one that should be falling apart?

**Fuji -** I don't. What they don't know is that I've packed and started driving to the airport several times.

**Freddie J -** We knew, baby!

***(Shelly gets up and puts her chair next to Fuji and embraces her)***

**Fuji -** I promised myself that I wouldn't cry. (Holding onto Shelly)

**Harris -** (After a long pause). If it helps at all...Fuji...Jacob told me that he is comforted by the knowledge that you are doing so well in your studies and that you will be able to join him sooner than you two had originally planned. He says that he's so proud of you and that your success makes his time away bearable.

**Fuji -** Sometimes, it seems like I'm wasting my time. I have learned more about business from Shelly and Larry, and more about life from this family than I have learned in all of my time in the classroom.

**Larry -** That may be true, honey...but you know how important it is to Jacob that you finish college.

**Freddie J -** We're all so very proud of you!

**Fuji -** When they call Jackie up...I'm going! I don't care who I disappoint...I'm going!

**Shelly -** We're all going, honey! We can't imagine being there without you. (Larry and Freddie J nodding and smiling.)

**Harris -** It sounds like you're all planning a trip back to the states.

**Shelly -** I'm not so sure about that, Harris. I don't think Lou is going to let them call him up until he's sure that Jacob is ready physically, mentally and emotionally.

**Larry -** It won't be long, Harris.

**Shelly -** I'm going to smack you, dumbass!

**Larry -** Actually, we are planning a trip to the States. Jacobs' team is playing a three-game series in Las Vegas against the Oakland A's AAA team. We're all going to be there for the weekend.

**Harris -** Lou Piniella told me an interesting story about you (addressing all of them). He said that he was a little bit concerned about Jacob after a game. Apparently, Jacob only had one hit during that game and Lou couldn't put a finger on what he was doing. He thought that perhaps something was wrong at home and that he called New Zealand and that Shelly answered the phone. He told you about his concerns, but you referred him to call Fuji. Let me show you what he had to say:

***(Cut to video of Harris and ESPN interviewing Lou Piniella)***



**Lou Piniella -**

...So...I can't believe that I'm doing it, but I pick up the phone and call Jacobs' girlfriend in New Zealand to ask her about what Jacob's doing at the plate when she hasn't seen him swing a bat in months. I tell her that Jacob went one for four and didn't look good at the plate. Before I can ask her if something's wrong at home, she asks "was the game close"? I say yes. She asks, "did he pull the ball foul down the line without runners on base"? I had to think about it, but yes...he did. She says "tell him to slow down and stop trying to do too much. Sometimes, he thinks he has to do it all himself and he tries to drive the ball instead of taking what the pitcher gives him. Tell him to focus on hitting the ball the opposite way and his swing will come back to him." So...I thank her and hang up the phone, thinking that I just got schooled by some little girl. I'm telling you...this whole family knows baseball better than most Major League Managers.

### **Back to the New Zealand Interview**

**Harris -**

(With everybody laughing). Well...that's very high praise from a man that knows baseball as well as anybody knows baseball.

**Larry -**

He's right, you know! We've all been immersed in studying baseball because of Jacob. I'm constantly updating his I-Pad and laptop with new data that he requests.

Whenever any of us saw something and wanted Jacob to know what we saw, we'd send Fuji to tell him. He's very gentle with Fuji and he'll listen to her more than he'll listen to anybody else.

**Fuji -**

He's really not a very nice guy during the game. He's so focused on what he's doing. He doesn't want to be bothered with anything or anybody during a game. Yes...he's gentle and kind with me, but I know that he really doesn't want to be bothered. For the most part, we don't tell him anything until after the game is over.

**Freddie J -**

Yeah...then he says, "why didn't you tell me"?

**Harris -**

He's not a nice guy during the game?

**Shelly -**

It used to bother me, Harris. But...as soon as the game is over, he's the same Jacob again. I've reluctantly come to understand that it's a byproduct of the intensity of his competitive spirit. I don't like it, but I understand it...and I know that he will always be the same sweet, lighthearted young man that we all love and trust. We've all learned not to take it personally.

**Harris -**

That all sounds very familiar. I brought along a quote I found of Lou Piniella's mother describing her son's intensity.

"Often, Margaret Piniella would stay in her car behind the left-field fence during Lou's games so she wouldn't become too excited. But just as often, she would be courtside during Lou's basketball games for Jesuit High, exchanging words with opposing fans, infuriated when officials would call fouls on Lou for retaliating.

She was not fond of those stories. But when asked about her son's temper on the baseball field and in the dugout as both player and manager, she explained it this way.

"They say he has a temper," she said. "Well, everyone has a temper. I have a temper, too. But when the game's over, that's gone. I go home, and I'm a different person. That's the way Lou is, too. He just wants everything to be perfect."

**Cut to ESPN and Fox News Studios (Split Screen)**

- Harris -** Well...it's time again to check in with Chris Berman and the guys at ESPN for an update from San Francisco. Chris...I understand that there have been some interesting developments for Jacob and the Padres.
- Chris Berman -** Interesting, indeed...Harris. Let's take a look at what's happened so far. We're now into the top of the fifth. Wyatt has cruised through the first four innings, giving up a lead-off single in the first and a two out walk in the fourth. The single was a dribbler, and the walk was on pitches that could easily have been called strikes. Other than that, Wyatt has been absolutely untouchable. (To the ESPN baseball analysts). Guys, what do you think?
- ESPN Analysts -** You said it, Chris. He's been untouchable. I don't know how the Padres resisted the temptation to bring Wyatt up this long. This guy throws five pitches and there's not a dog in the bunch.
- Chris Berman -** Not a dog in the bunch? He's only thrown two change-up's and they were both strike-out pitches. How can you possibly hit that change-up when he's just blown you away with fastballs?
- ESPN Analysts -** Exactly...and it's not just a fastball...it's three of them. His cutter breaks sharply, and his 4-seamer is almost always up and in. He pitches inside without any fear.
- ESPN Analysts -** Why should he have any fear? If you start looking for a pitch on the inside corner, he blows one by you on the outside corner. If you look for a fastball on the outside corner, he snaps off that sharp breaking curveball and buckles your knees. I know it's just one game, but if he keeps pitching like this, he's going to win a lot of games.
- Chris Berman -** Alright then...so he's been nearly perfect through four complete and he's given himself a two-run lead by going deep in the third on his first major league at bat. That brings us to the top of the fifth. The Padres got a lead-off double. After a strike out and a ground out to second that moved the

runner to third, Wyatt stepped to the plate for the second time tonight. Again, this is courtesy of Fox Sports, San Diego.

**Cut to Videotaped Broadcast**

**Don Orsillo -** Look at this...as Jacob Wyatt steps toward the plate, nobody is sitting here in San Francisco tonight.

**Mark Grant -** You can bet that Pods' fans watching tonight from home are standing too. Look at the dugouts. There's nobody sitting in the dugouts, either.

**Don Orsillo -** Well...here we go. Runner on third and two outs. (Pitchers' name) into the stretch. Oh no...Wyatt is down...he just got drilled in the mid-section. (Momentary silence). He's getting up. He seems to be OK.

**Mark Grant -** That's just wrong. That was no mistake. That was a fastball right to the gut and clearly was meant to do harm.

**Don Orsillo -** Padres' Manager Jayce Tingler is out of the dugout with the trainer to check on Wyatt. He seems to be OK. He's waving them off. No...they're all on first base and they're checking on his ribs. Holy smokes! Look at Lou Piniella. He's on his way to the mound. No...he's being held back by Wyatt and the others. He's HOT!

**Mark Grant -** Hot? He's going nuts. You've gotta admit...this is classic Lou Piniella. Baseball's really missed this guy.

**Don Orsillo -** (Laughing). Yeah...it's classic Piniella alright. Wyatt's got him calmed down and he's getting him back to the dugout. Players on both sides are out in front of their respective dugouts, but they're not advancing right now.

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** Vintage Lou Piniella! He's not a young man any more. Makes you wonder how this would have turned out if Lou was 20 years younger. I don't think he could have been returned to the dugout so easily.

**ESPN Analysts -** Not a chance. 20 years ago, they'd have had to call out the riot police to calm this thing down.

**Chris Berman -** (Still laughing). This thing's not over, folks. The inning continued and there were more fireworks from San Francisco. Once again, here's Fox Sports and Don Orsillo.

**Cut to Videotaped Broadcast**

**Don Orsillo -** (Giants' pitcher) into the stretch. Wyatt has a big lead...throw to first...Wyatt's back. The Padres with a two-run lead are threatening again here in the fifth with runners at the corners. Wyatt off the bag...and the pitch...there goes Wyatt! (Giants' catcher) up...no throw. Wyatt's in easily at second.

**Mark Grant -** We know he can run...but he sure is quick for a big guy. Usually, your successful base stealers are much smaller than Wyatt. He's surprisingly quick for a big guy.

**Don Orsillo -** He sure is. He has a strange stance when he's leading off. His feet are much closer together and he's bent at the knees. He took a couple of short, quick, choppy steps and then he was flying down the line.

**Mark Grant -** Wow! I mean...WOW!

**Don Orsillo -** (Sarcastically)...well said. (Laughter).

**Don Orsillo -** Alright then...runners on second and third with two out here in the fifth. (Screaming)...line shot into right. One run in...here comes Wyatt around third running through a late stop sign...the throw...he's safe...oh my...hard tag to the head, but he's safe.

**Mark Grant -** He got double tapped...he got hit hard twice.

**Don Orsillo -** Uh oh...here we go. Wyatt's not up. The benches are emptying onto the field.

**Mark Grant -** He's up and he's not happy.

**Don Orsillo -** Wyatt's going after (Giants' catcher). He's not going to get there...he's being smothered by (home plate umpire). Piniella's got him and he's got help. Wyatt is being pulled away. Jayce Tingler and Lou have him wrapped up and they're not going to let him get into this thing.

**Mark Grant -** This is ugly. This could become a mess.

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** There it is. They've got things calmed down and they just resumed play in San Francisco. (To the ESPN Analysts). The Giants seem to be intent on ruining Wyatt's debut.

**ESPN Analysts -** It's inauguration day and the Giants are throwing him quite a welcoming party, Chris.

**Chris Berman -** Welcoming party? It's starting to look like the NHL out there.

**ESPN Analysts -** This is old school. The Giants have heard all about this kid and they are not about to let him come into their house and get away unscathed.

**ESPN Analysts -** Maybe not...but the kid is schooling them. Just look at the stats. He's gone four complete and given them nothing. He's made them look foolish at the plate. Then, for good measure, he's homered, driving in two and he's scored from second to give his team a four-run lead going into the bottom of the fifth. If you're the Giants, you'd better be careful what you wish for...you just might get it.

**Chris Berman -** There it is, Harris. It's a wild night in San Francisco and it's not over. There is a unanimous belief here that the fireworks are not over for Jacob Wyatt and the Padres.

**Cut to ESPN and Fox News Studios (Split Screen)**

- Harris -** Don't those guys know what a nice young man Jacob Wyatt is? They're not treating him very well.
- Chris Berman -** No, they're not. It's going to be interesting to see how he responds to all of this, Harris.
- Harris -** Interestingly, Chris...we were just talking about Jacobs' handling of situations like this and his competitive spirit in the interview and the conversation continues.
- Chris Berman -** I saw that, Harris. But...this is the "real deal" that he's facing tonight. It's going to be interesting!
- Harris -** OK...Chris. We'll wait anxiously for your next report. Until then...we're going back to Cloister, New Zealand.

### **Cut to New Zealand Interview**

- Harris -** I got a quick glimpse of Jacob getting a bit upset in El Paso when one of the ESPN guys said something that Jacob didn't like. We had not yet started the interview and Jacob jumped up and went after the guy. He was calm but very clearly unhappy. The look on his face changed and he insisted that the guy apologize to me immediately. Lou jumped in and said, "get out of here quickly while you still can". The guy was trying to apologize, but Jacob let everybody know that if he wasn't removed right away that ESPN was out of the interview. The other ESPN guys pulled him out and took him straight to the airport.
- Larry -** There are times, Harris, when a man has to be a man and my son is a man!



**Harris -** Yes...but you're right, Shelly...he quickly became the sweet, kind Jacob again. It was almost as though he had never become upset.

**Shelly -** That's the real Jacob. He avoids controversy and disputes. He rarely gets upset. When he does, it's always because he sees somebody else being mistreated. He won't fail to come to the defense of anybody who's being abused, but he doesn't respond to attacks against himself. He'll walk away every time...except on the baseball field. I wish I could get him to be as long suffering on the diamond as he is everywhere else.

**Harris -** Is that unanimous among all family members, Larry?

**Larry -** No.

**Harris -** Freddie J?

**Freddie J -** Yes.

**Harris -** Fuji?

**Fuji -** No.

**Harris -** (With everybody laughing). Well then, I guess there are some things that you don't all agree on.

**Shelly -** (Jokingly)...I'm so glad that I can count on you two to back me up on this!

- Larry -** Baby, it's not that we want Jacob to look for trouble or controversy. He doesn't. He's just more assertive in defending himself on the diamond than he is in a restaurant. It's part of the game.
- Harris -** You surprised me a bit with your response, Fuji.
- Fuji -** He's been hit a lot in Indiana and in El Paso. I don't like it and I don't want them to think that they can hit him any time they want and that nothing will happen.
- Larry -** I'm with Fuji. They've just gotta stop hitting him.
- Freddie J -** It's not like Jacob to retaliate. It's just not him.
- Shelly -** That's right!
- Larry -** Don't count on it. Once he's hit their pitcher a few times, I'll bet they stop hitting him.
- Harris -** You said earlier, Fuji, that you and Jacob never make any plans for your futures that don't include you two being together. It looks like Jacob is going to be in America indefinitely. What are your plans for the future?
- Fuji -** Our plans are that we will be together. Right now, I'm finishing up my studies at the university and he's establishing himself there. If he's called up this year, I'll be going there to join him. Otherwise, we will be together again when the season is over.

- Shelly -** These two are very smart. They have known for years that this time would come, and they have both handled this separation quite well. Because they know that they are mutually committed to a long and happy future together, they can get through these difficult days.
- Fuji -** When we discussed these times, we looked at the men and women who serve their country in the military as examples of how we must approach our time apart. We're not comparing our situation with theirs. We're not risking our lives for others! I'm just saying that we look up to them as an ideal example of handling separation with strength and dignity.
- Jackie is doing what he has to do, and I am doing what I must. It's not easy, but it's what we must do to get to the place that we want to be. I have my daddy and Larry and Shelly to comfort me. I thank God that Jackie has Mr. and Mrs. Piniella to be with him. I truly don't think that he would have been able to be away from his family like this without the Piniella's. They are family now, and Jacob loves and respects them as members of our family.
- Harris -** Wow! You must know that Lou Piniella doesn't have the reputation of a comforting father figure.
- Shelly -** Anybody that doesn't consider Lou Piniella as a kind and sweet man doesn't know him. He growls and groans because he cares. He's like a Mama bear protecting her cub. He made me a promise that he would look after Jacob and he's kept that promise. I love that man!
- Larry -** Lou is a man among men. He has an integrity that deserves respect. He's a baseball man to his very core, and Jacob respects him immensely.
- Harris -** He sure growled a lot in El Paso. He didn't want Jacob to do the interviews yet. He didn't want him to get the attention until he was ready for it.

**Shelly -** We didn't want it either, but it's becoming obvious that the interviews had to be done. That's why you're here, Harris. We wanted somebody that we could trust to be honest and fair. We know you and we know that you won't distort these interviews by editing them in a way that will create a false image of our son and that you won't add commentary that misrepresents who we all are. The same goes for Chris Berman.

**Harris -** I don't imagine that there will be any editing. We want this to be a true and complete picture of your family. We'll let the viewer's draw their own conclusions.

**Larry -** No editing? I am hoping that you will edit out that whole conversation about how we met!

**Harris -** No. I think we'll leave that in too. Just expect some censoring of the things that can't be said on television.

**Shelly -** (With everybody laughing). I love it! Tune in to watch Larry Wyatt embarrass himself!

**Cut to ESPN and Fox News Studios (Split Screen)**

**Harris -** (Serious, looking concerned). Once again, it's time to check in with Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios for an update. Chris, we've been watching the game here and we cannot believe what we've seen.

**Chris Berman -** Thanks, Harris...and we welcome the Fox News audience. Wow! What a night in San Francisco. For those of you who have recently tuned in to this remarkable broadcast, we're going to review the happenings in San Francisco tonight from the beginning as the San Diego Padres and the San

Francisco Giants have squared off and as Jacob Wyatt has made his unbelievable Major League debut.

The Padres went down in order in the top of the first. The leadoff hitter in the bottom of the first watched the first four pitches without moving the bat off of his shoulder. All four of those pitches could easily have been called strikes. With the 3-1 pitch, Wyatt sent a fastball right down the middle that (Giants' batter) squibbed between the shortstop and third baseman for a lead-off, infield single. Wyatt easily disposed of the next three Giants' hitters, two of them on strikes.

The Padres failed to score in the top of the second and Wyatt put the Giants down in order in the bottom of the second.

The top of the third began for the Padres with a lead-off walk. With a man on and nobody out in the top of the third, Jacob Wyatt stepped to the plate for the first time in Major League Baseball:

**Cut to Fox Sports, San Diego Videotaped Broadcast of the Wyatt Home Run**

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** Wyatt cruised through the third and fourth innings without allowing a hit. With two outs and a man on third in the top half of the fifth inning, Jacob Wyatt took to the plate for the second time tonight.

**Cut to Fox Sports, San Diego Videotaped Broadcast of Wyatt Being Hit and Scoring**

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** It took the umpires a while to settle tempers before play could be resumed in the top half of the fifth inning. Wyatt again blew through the Giants' batters in the bottom of the fifth and the Padres were scoreless in the top of the sixth.

Wyatt has now retired 15 of the 17 Giants that he's faced, including 9 strike outs and he has a 4-0 lead going into the bottom half of the sixth. He's been hit by a pitch and tagged hard in the 5<sup>th</sup>, resulting in the ejection of (Giants' catcher) and a benches clearing altercation, complete with pushing and shoving and screaming, but no punches were thrown.

That brings us to the bottom of the sixth inning, with Giants' pitcher (Name) stepping up to the plate. Here's Don Orsillo and Mark Grant with the call.

**Cut to Fox Sports, San Diego Videotaped Broadcast**

**Don Orsillo -** Well...here we go. (Giants' pitcher) has grabbed a bat and he's watching Wyatt finish up his warm-up pitches. I can't believe that they're going to let him bat. He's pitched well. He's through six innings. Even if he gets through the next inning, it's unlikely that they'll use him in the eighth and ninth. He's thrown a lot of pitches.

**Mark Grant -** Giants' Manager Gabe Kapler is pushing all of Wyatt's buttons. I think he wants him to throw at (Giants' pitcher). If he does, he's gone. Both benches have been warned. He's challenging Wyatt to defend himself.

**Don Orsillo -** He's announced! (Giants' pitcher) is stepping up to the plate. Look at this, Mark...both benches are on their feet at the top of the steps and there's nobody sitting here in San Francisco.

Wyatt looks in for a sign. Here it is...into his wind up...oh my! That's a fastball right at him. (Giants' pitcher) is down...and here come the benches.

**Mark Grant -** There it is, Don. It's on now!

**Don Orsillo -** Wyatt just tossed his hat and his glove. Did you see that? Wyatt decked (Giants' player)! Oh no...this is a mess!

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** There's a new sheriff in town, Giants' fans...and his name is Wyatt! He pitches like Sandy Koufax, hits like Babe Ruth, runs like Rickey Henderson and tackles like Junior Seau. (To the ESPN Analysts). How about the hit he laid on (Giants' player)?

**ESPN Analysts -** If this was the showdown at the OK Corral...once again, Wyatt landed the heaviest blow. Maybe you should have the NFL guys in here to talk about that tackle.

**Chris Berman -** (Laughing). That's not a bad idea. If this was an NFL game, he'd have been flagged for unnecessary roughness. He left his feet and led with his head.

**ESPN Analysts -** (All laughing). The whole thing stopped for a moment when he put the wood to (Giants' player). Everybody at the front of that charge just stopped and looked down at Wyatt and (Giants' player). They were stunned by that hit.

**ESPN Analysts -** That didn't last long, though. I don't think I've seen a brawl like that in some time. Usually, there are a few skirmishes in a baseball brawl and everybody else pretty much squares off and dances around to make sure his dance partner doesn't get into it. Not tonight! The Padres' players really came to the defense of their new teammate.

- Chris Berman -** That's true...but this was a real brawl with some serious punches thrown. There's going to be some suspensions coming down from the league on both sides.
- ESPN Analysts -** Suspension or not...the kid did what he had to do. He was intentionally abused all throughout the game...and he did exactly what he had to do. If he had failed to take out (Giants' pitcher), it would have sent a message to the league that you can hit him at will without having to worry about retribution. He just let it be known throughout the land that if you hit him with a 90 mile an hour fastball that he'll drill you with a 100 mile an hour fastball.
- ESPN Analyst -** I don't buy that. Yes, he was intentionally hit and tagged hard...but there's never a good reason to intentionally hit another player with a 100-mph fastball. He could have taken something off of it and still made his point.
- Chris Berman -** Maybe so...but if you're a Giants' or a Dodgers' pitcher and you see that 104-mph rocket hit (Giants' pitcher) square in the back and you watch him hit the ground, you're going to think long and hard before you throw at Wyatt.
- ESPN Analyst -** My point exactly...and when you see Wyatt put the wood to (Giants' player), you're going to hesitate before you go charging the mound, too.
- Chris Berman -** There you have it, folks. Not exactly a perfect game, but a nearly perfect performance by young Jacob Wyatt tonight. We caught up with Wyatt in the locker room after the game. His parents are with him and here's what they had to say.

**Cut to the Padres Locker Room**



**Scene Set-up**      *(Accompanied by the trainer, Jacob makes his way to his locker and sits down on the bench, facing away from his locker. Suddenly, it occurs to him that his parents are going to be trying to fight their way into the locker room. He asks the trainer to help him find his parents and let them in. About that time, security personnel approach the trainer about the “older couple” insisting that they are the parents of one of the players. The trainer turns to the boy, who smiles and says...)*

**Jacob -**      That's them!

*(Simultaneously, the press begins to find their way into the locker room. As the reporters fire off questions, Jacob is looking over the tops of their heads for his parents. Now being escorted by pitching coach Larry Rothschild and two security guards, Larry & Shelly make their way into the locker room. It's smiles all the way around as they make eye contact and Jacob makes a path between the reporters on his way to see the parents that he has so badly missed for the past several months. All three break into tears as they hug as though they have been absent each others' company for years. Shelly notices that there is blood in Jacobs' mouth and begins to inspect his mouth, looking for any other injuries that he might have.)*

**Shelly -**      Oh my God, you're hurt.

**Jacob -**      It's nothing, mom. Just a little cut, but I feel great!

*(Motioning to the trainer, Shelly begins to try to clear the reporters from her son but is quickly stopped by Jacob.)*

**Jacob -**      Mom...mom, it's alright. I'm fine. Hey dad, can you sit with mom for a few minutes while I get the questions these reporters have for me out of the way?

*(Larry takes a quick look at his son's lip and smiles proudly at his son.)*

**Larry -** Sure I can.

*(Some of the reporters begin to ask questions of Larry & Shelly, but Jacob interrupts, while wiping tears of joy from his eyes.)*

**Jacob -** Hey, how about I answer any questions you have for me...then my mom and dad will join us for a few questions.

**Locker Room Reporter 1 -** Hey Jake, looks like your lip is starting to swell. You OK?

**Jacob -** Yes sir, I didn't even know that it was hurt until my mom pointed it out.

**Locker Room Reporter 2 -** That fastball that you threw at (Giants' Pitcher) was clocked at 104. Why didn't you take something off of it?

**Jacob -** Listen...this is baseball, and sometimes a pitch gets away from you. (Giants' Pitcher) had one get away from him and I had one get away from me. It was unfortunate...bad timing, but it's all a part of the game. There's nothing more to it than that.

**Locker Room Reporter 2 -** *(Incredulously)*...Are you really gonna try to tell us that hitting (Giants' Pitcher) was an accident?

**Jacob -** That's what I'm telling you. Mistakes are made...and sometimes batters get hit. I had a pitch get away from me and that's it. It was an unfortunate mistake...and I'm very sorry that it hit (Giants' Pitcher). I'm confident that he'll tell you the same thing. I got hit and he got hit. It's all just an unfortunate event. Bad timing for both of us...and an unfortunate event. Also, I don't want any young baseball players out there to think that it's OK to hit

somebody. I've been taught that there's never a good reason to intentionally hit anybody. I want all of the kids out there who see this game to know that there's never a good reason to intentionally hit anybody. I apologize for my part in all of this, but I'm telling you that it was all just an unfortunate event.

**Locker Room Reporter 3 -** (To Larry Wyatt). How old did you say this kid is...you sure he's only 17?

**Jacob -** I want to thank you guys, but I'd really appreciate it if you could give me a little time with my parents. We haven't seen each other for a very long time.

**(Cameras turn to Lou Piniella and the other ejected players entering the locker room)**

**Lou Piniella -** (Laughing as he approaches Jacob and embraces him). So...how do you like Major League Baseball so far?

**Jacob -** Not even close to how I imagined it. I have dreamed of this night for all of my life...but none of my dreams were anything like this.

**Lou Piniella -** Yeah...I'm really sorry about that. I told you that they were gonna come after you, but I didn't think they would go that far.

**Jacob -** What's going to happen now? How bad is it going to be?

**Lou Piniella -** Don't worry about it. You were great. You made a helluva entrance and this night won't ever be forgotten.

**Jacob -** Oh great!

**Shelly -** (Stepping in to embrace Lou). Thank you so much for taking such good care of my son. We will never forget what you've done for Jacob.

**Lou Piniella -** Cut it out. You know damned well that I'm with him for my own reasons.

**Shelly -** Bullshit! (While smiling and kissing Lou.)

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** (Laughing, and very animated). Well...there you have it...folks! It was just another chapter in the "Lemony Snicket's" Series of Unfortunate Events". Tonight in San Francisco, a couple of badly timed, "unfortunate mistakes" were made that resulted in an all-out brawl. (Turning to the ESPN Baseball Analysts). Oops...so sorry about that pitch getting away from me, guys.

**ESPN Analyst 1 -** Yeah...Chris...nobody believes that for a moment...but you have got to hand it to Wyatt. In this, his first time in front of the national sports media, he handled himself perfectly. He can't admit to intentionally hitting (Giants' Pitcher) or he will be suspended for a long time and given a huge fine to pay. It was an entirely disarming statement that he gave. That was an artful performance.

**ESPN Analyst 2 -** That's right. He's just as good in front of the camera as he is on the diamond...so far, at least.

**Cut to ESPN and Fox News Studios (Split Screen)**

**Chris Berman -** (Turning to the Camera), how you doing, Harris?

**Harris -** (Very animated). I'm freaking out here, Chris. I know this young man. He's just the nicest young man that you'll ever meet.

**Chris Berman -** (Laughing and animated). No argument from me, Harris...but you've got to admit that he won't hesitate to defend himself...and...he's pretty good at it.

**Harris -** OK, but I'm glad for that, Chris. Maybe they'll just let him play the game from now on. Tell me, Chris...did his performance match up with your expectations?

**Chris Berman -** I'm absolutely stunned by his performance, Harris. His physical talents were well known coming into the night...but watching him on the mound and at the plate tonight...I have to admit that I've underestimated his abilities. His physical talents were exactly as advertised, but his mental and emotional approach to the game could not have been anticipated. He was calm and focused and unemotional in a way that I can't remember ever seeing in a 17-year-old kid. We've been talking here, Harris, and we all agree that he is clearly a student of the game and he's greatly benefitted from spending some quality time with Lou Piniella. The Giants threw everything imaginable at him...and looking back at it from a baseball historical viewpoint...I can't think of a single thing that any old school hall of famer would have done differently. I'd have to say that his performance exceeded expectations.

**Harris -** Based on what you've seen tonight...how do you like the Padres' chances this year.

**Chris Berman -** It's going to be very interesting, Harris. There's not a lot of baseball to be played this season and the Padres are well back of the World Series Champion Dodgers and Los Angeles is a very talented club. If you had asked me before tonight, I would have told you that the Padres' chances were not good. After tonight, I think the odds makers in Las Vegas are sharpening their pencils. I think that if Wyatt continues playing like he did tonight, the Padres will be favored next year, but this year is still a stretch.

**Harris -** That's a lot of pressure to put on a 17-year-old.

**Chris Berman -** It really is. It's too much for ANY 17-year-old. By the way, Harris, we got a chance to talk a bit with Lou Piniella in the locker room. He took up for Jacob.

**Harris -** Good! You want to show it?

**Chris Berman -** You bet. Here you go.

### **Cut to the Padres Locker Room**

**Lou Piniella -** What the hell did you expect him to do? Do you think he should get smacked across the face at the plate and drilled by a fastball and just take it? What he did was exactly what he should have done. He's gotta stand up for himself. But don't imagine that the fight tonight defines Jacob or in any way makes him some kind of a bully. "Never mistake the man for the moment", so don't judge him from what you've seen in this one moment. This is a fine young man, and he shouldn't have been treated like this tonight. But everybody's gotta know that you don't smack him around and get away clean. You let him play the game and he'll play it like a man. If you play dirty, he'll give it right back to you. Remember Bob Gibson? You hit Jacob Wyatt and that's who you're gonna get!

**Cut to Split Screen with Harris and Chris Berman**

- Chris Berman -** That last bit about Bob Gibson was a message to the rest of the teams in the league. Back in the '60's, Bob Gibson was a beast on the mound, and nobody messed with him. Piniella's putting the word out that Jacob Wyatt is not to be messed with.
- Harris -** Wow! That's an entirely different tone than Jacob himself struck.
- Chris Berman -** It is. And Jacob handled himself perfectly. Piniella's just letting it be known that you can't hit Jacob and expect to get away unscathed. I wouldn't expect anything less from Piniella. He's protecting the kid.
- Harris -** Okay...well...I guess I don't get this. I thought that baseball was a gentleman's game.
- Chris Berman -** Well, Harris...it is, and it isn't. There are some unwritten rules that are just universally understood. You don't steal bases when you have a big lead. You don't lay down a bunt to break up a no-hitter. And now...you don't hit Jacob Wyatt with a pitch.
- Harris -** I like the unwritten rules.
- Chris Berman -** (Laughing). I thought you might. After what the audience has seen here tonight, I bet they're anxious to get back to your interview.

**Harris -** I'm sure you're right, Chris. We're going to take a break...and when we come back, we'll go back to Cloister, New Zealand and let America get to know Jacob Wyatt a little better. Don't go away, folks...there's much more to come.

**Cut to Commercial, then back to Harris in the Fox News Studios**

**Harris -** Welcome back. Without delay, we're going back to Cloister, New Zealand to continue our interview with the Wyatt family. Enjoy!

**Cut to the New Zealand Interview**

**Harris -** Let's get back to why Jacob is so good at baseball. You mentioned that he gets up before you every day and starts working out. What does he do?

**Shelly -** Oh my God! He works out harder than you can imagine. He has developed specific workouts for each and every part of his body and every one of them is designed to strengthen and perfect a particular part of his body to either hit a baseball or throw a baseball. He's actually designed exercise equipment that simulates throwing and hitting baseballs. He has exercises to strengthen his hands, fingers and forearms so that he can get more snap on his fastball and more break on his curveball. What we didn't know until it was too late is that they were also designed to make his arms and fingers abnormally long. We would have stopped him if we had known.

**Larry -** I agree...we would have stopped him then. However, now that it's done and he's so close to achieving his objective, we have to admit that it was absolute genius on his part. He knew that we would have stopped him from stretching out his arms and fingers, so he kept it from us. But...look at the results. He's an exceptional young man with exceptional skills and a heart and soul to be



admired and respected. Retrospectively, I have to say that I'm glad that he outsmarted us and sculpted himself. I wouldn't change a thing that he's done. I only regret that I obstructed his progress and didn't support him in his objectives.

**Harris -**

That's quite an admission. You were deceived and outsmarted by your own son, and now you're glad? Is it possible that you subconsciously knew what he was doing, but let it happen because you somehow knew that it is what he wanted?

**Shelly -**

No, Harris. You have no idea how badly we wanted him to stop focusing on baseball and start focusing on something...anything else. We love baseball too, but he has been ridiculously obsessed with baseball.

**Larry -**

You know...you may be right, in my case.

**Shelly -**

Dumbass!

**Larry -**

I don't disagree with Shelly at all, but I've got to admit that, as a father, I have always admired his dedication. I've never known anyone that loved anything so much that he would drive himself so hard and sacrifice so much of himself to achieve a single goal. Usually, people lose interest or get steered off track of their goals over time. No matter what else happened in his life, Jacob has always remained focused on working himself out to achieve his goal of playing Major League Baseball. As a man, I can't help but love and respect his heart. I've always known that he would be a Major League Baseball player. But...you know...if he didn't make it, I know that he would have refocused his attention to whatever else he chose to do and he would have been exceptional at whatever he decided to do. My son is a winner, and he will always be a winner.

**Harris -**

What about you, Fuji? Did you know what Jacob was doing?

**Fuji -** (Pause). Do you really have to ask me that? (Long pause as everybody is surprised and attentive). Yes. I've always known what he was doing, and I helped him to deceive you. I'd like to say that I'm sorry, but I'm not.

**Freddie J -** Oh boy!

**Harris -** How did you help him?

**Fuji -** Alright...I'll tell you now! You have to understand that I've loved Jacob completely and without reservation for all of my life. I would have always done anything to help him to do whatever he asked me to do. I trust him entirely, and when he asked me to help him to develop exercise equipment to stretch his arms and fingers and to strengthen specific muscles, I studied muscle and bone structures and secretly helped him to hide it from you. I love you...and Jackie loves you...and you all know it. But I love him above all, and I trust him above all, and I will always do what he needs and wants. Ours is a partnership that cannot be broken by anybody or anything.

**Harris -** Wow! I think I'm actually going to take a drink of this wine and let that soak in for a moment (eyes tearing).

**Long, silent pause**

**Shelly -** I really want to be mad at you, honey...but I can't. You two are something else!

**Freddie J -** I'm so proud of you, baby.

**Another long, silent pause**

- Harris -** Is there anything that he asked you to do that you wouldn't do?
- Fuji -** No. But you have to understand that Jackie is not some kind of deranged maniac. He would never ask me to get involved in anything that would hurt him or anybody else. For example, look at the whole steroids thing. When a lot of ballplayers were using steroids to give them strength, Jackie wouldn't even talk about it. He has always said that it was cheating and that he would rather fail than to cheat. That's just who he is and who he's always been.
- Harris -** You said that he'd rather fail than cheat. What if it didn't work out? What if baseball didn't work out?
- Fuji -** Then he would still be the best man in the world with long arms and fingers.
- Larry -** Can't argue with that! Not such a bad thing, eh?
- Shelly -** Shut up. Dumbass! (Smirking and with everybody laughing).
- Harris -** That raises an interesting question...what would happen if Jacob didn't succeed at baseball? What then?
- Shelly -** I really don't know.
- Larry -** Shut up, Shelly! (everybody laughing...he's obviously just being a smart ass).

**Harris -** Did you ever talk about it? How about you, Fuji? Did you two talk about what you would do if baseball didn't work out?

**Fuji -** Of course. As hard as it might be for everybody to believe, Jackie has given serious consideration to the idea that he might not make it as a baseball player. Yes, he's dedicated to baseball and to being as good as he can possibly be. But...he doesn't go through life with blinders on. If he gave his all to baseball and failed, he is thrilled to know that he always has the farm. You all know that he loves this land and this winery. He takes great pride in what goes into every bottle of wine that leaves this place. He's done every job on the farm and he would be perfectly happy to spend the rest of his life right here with us.

**Shelly -** (Crying). That's what we've always wanted to know...that he has loved his life here and that he values what he has here.

**Larry -** Come on! You know how much he loves this winery. He's worked as hard as anybody to get this place to this point and he's proud of it.

**Harris -** So that's the plan? If and when baseball is over, he's back to the farm?

**Larry -** Fuji...is that it? Is it back home when baseball's over?

**Fuji -** (Pause). Yes. That's always been the plan and he will be a very happy farmer when baseball's over. But...you have to know that he has other things that he's seriously interested in.

**Harris -** What do you mean? What things?

- Fuji -** Well...at one time, I really thought that he would go into the ministry like dad if he didn't play baseball. You know that he loves God and loves his Bible...but he's become a bit frustrated with Churches. He also loves history, especially American history. He knows the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights almost word for word and has studied significant court decisions. I suspect that he will work hard at farming and wine making and maybe have some kind of a secondary career that has something to do with American History. Maybe as a teacher.
- Harris -** Wow! That's interesting. I had no idea that he was interested in politics.
- Fuji -** No...not politics. He loathes politics but loves history. He has no love for politics or politicians.
- Larry -** (Laughing). That's my boy!
- Harris -** Interestingly, Jacob tells me that Anita Piniella has been the anchor that has kept him grounded while he's away from all of you.
- Shelly -** I cannot possibly describe how much we love Anita and how grateful we are for what she's doing in Jacobs' life. She's been down this road with Lou, and she has done so much to protect Jacob. Her strength and compassion for Jacob has not only kept him grounded, but it's changed him in ways that will make him a better man. And...I absolutely love that she pulled him off of social media. She has convinced him that nothing good will ever come from reading about himself and that people can be mean and hurtful and that he doesn't need that kind of influence in his life.
- Harris -** (Laughing). Anita told me about that. You know, he may be the only 17-year-old in the developed world that doesn't have a social media presence.

- Shelly -** There's already enough about him all over social media. Anita's right...he doesn't need to see the things that are said about him.
- Harris -** I'm sure that you and Anita are right, but so far, social media has been very kind to Jacob and Jacob used social media very effectively to get himself known before the draft. It has been suggested that without social media, Jacob wouldn't have been drafted in the second round.
- Shelly -** So far, yes. Social media has been very kind to Jacob. But that can change in a moment. Besides, there's nothing that Jacob has to say that can't wait. People get themselves in trouble by putting their thoughts out on the social media platforms. We just want him to give thought to the things that he has to say and sometimes, social media is too convenient, and people say things that they later regret. Now, we're not criticizing social media. I believe that you're right...Jacob would not have been able to be drafted so high without social media. We just think that, right now, he's better off staying away from it.
- Larry -** We love social media. We were extremely active before the draft and there's no question that a kid from New Zealand would have to play some college ball before getting drafted without the help of the internet. Technology is responsible for Jacob's being where he is today.
- Harris -** How about you, Fuji? Do you miss following Jacob on social media.
- Fuji -** No, ma'am! If I never hear from another of the baseball groupies that follow Jackie, I'll be very happy.
- Harris -** (Laughing). I'll bet. Interesting that you brought that up, Fuji. That has to be difficult.

**Fuji -**

You know...I trust Jackie completely. But...Mrs. Piniella has had to get aggressive with some of the girls...and women...that have just walked up to Jackies' Winnebago uninvited or knocked on his hotel room door in the middle of the night. And the things that they say on social media are unbelievably graphic. I'm staying off of social media too. There's just some things that I don't want to see or hear.

**Harris -**

Ouch! I can see why...especially when you're thousands of miles apart...you would want to completely avoid social media.

I want to give each of you an opportunity to tell our viewers what you want them to take away from these interviews. What do you want the world to know about Jacob and about your family? Let's start with you, Larry.

**Larry -**

Okay...hmmm. I think the most important thing that I want people to know is that we're really no different than anybody else. We're really just like you. We don't think of ourselves as being any better than anybody else or any different. We have been very lucky from our early days in California up until today and we were blessed to have a son...against all odds...that has enriched our lives in so many ways. And that we hope you love our son. We sure do! And that he was gifted with talent, but his real success didn't come to him naturally. It's because of his hard work and dedication that he is able to do the things that he does. I'm hoping that people will recognize that and respect him for that.

**Harris -**

How about you, Shelly.

**Shelly -**

He's just a boy! He's only 17 years old. Please remember that he's just a boy. Everybody that has children knows that desperate feeling that comes over you when you realize that you just can't protect your children from getting hurt and that the world can be very scary. If I had my way, he would not be playing baseball right now. He would be here with us. I have never been comfortable with allowing a 17-year-old minor to leave home. So...when you see Jacob, please remember that he's very young and imagine how you would feel if it was your 17-year-old child.

**Harris -**

Freddie?

**Freddie J -**

God has blessed me so greatly by giving me this family. I just want everybody to know that God answered my prayers when he brought these people into my life and that I wish everybody could be loved the way we are all loved. That's the real message...love each other and when you do you receive so much more love back.

**Larry -**

(Acting like he's throwing up).

**Shelly -**

Stop it, dumbass!

**Harris -**

(Laughing). You tell him, Shelly! Okay...how about you, Fuji?

**Fuji -**

I like what my dad said. In fact, I agree with what you have all said and I really don't have anything to add. Except that I think that Larry's had enough wine. (Everybody laughs).

**Cut to Harris Faulkner in the Fox News Studios**

**Harris -**

Ladies and gentlemen, that's it for the Wyatt family interview from Cloister, New Zealand.

(Pause). On a personal note, I want to thank the Wyatt family. I want you to know that these are really good people. Fox News and ESPN have thoroughly investigated the Wyatt family and we have not found even a hint of scandal. We looked into their personal lives and their finances and there has been nothing improper that we could find. So, again...thank you to the Wyatt family!



I also want to thank ESPN and, especially, Chris Berman. Chris has become a very close friend of the Wyatt family and they respect and trust him greatly. I appreciate you loaning me your audience tonight.

We hope you have enjoyed this special presentation. Good night!

**Cut to Chris Berman in New York**

**Chris Berman -** (After the Regular ESPN musical intro). Good evening, and welcome to Monday Night Baseball. Tonight, Jacob Wyatt makes his first appearance since his extended vacation courtesy of the Commissioner of Major League Baseball and Wyatt's suspension following the famous brawl in San Francisco two weeks ago. Padres' fans...and, indeed, baseball fans all over the world have been anxiously waiting for the suspension to end and for Jacob Wyatt to return to action. Well...the wait is over and young Jacob Wyatt is warming up in the visitors' bullpen on a beautiful New York night. Guys...can you remember a more anticipated baseball game during your lifetimes?

**Analyst 1 -** No! It's not even close. The euphoria that Dodgers' fans had when Fernando Valenzuela emerged onto the scene and the steroid induced, Mark McGuire home run chase are distant second and third choices during my lifetime...but they are, like I said...distant.

**Analyst 2 -** Far distant! And...when you think about it, it's made even more amazing when you consider that the kid is only 17 years-old and he has yet to play a complete game in Major League Baseball.

**Chris Berman -** True...but when you couple the five and a half innings that he has played in Major League Baseball with his absolute domination of minor league baseball, you almost have to be watching tonight with the expectation that you are watching the beginning of something very special and historically important.

- Analyst 2 -** Let's not get ahead of ourselves. Even if Wyatt gets blown out tonight, I wouldn't place too much meaning on it. He has not been on the mound in a couple of weeks, and this is only one game in what is likely to be a very long career. He clearly has talents that have never been seen before and the ability to have a huge impact on the Padres' future, but it's only one game.
- Analyst 1 -** Nope...this is bigger than just one game. We're gonna find out what the kid's made of and whether or not he has the ability to carry this team on his back when it really matters. We're gonna find out if there is a "choke factor" that the Padres need to worry about.
- Chris Berman -** Well...there's two completely different reads on the significance of this game. It either means nothing or it means everything. Whichever is right in the long run, there are certainly a lot of people that don't want to miss this game. It's been a sell-out for over a week and scalpers are selling tickets for thousands of dollars apiece. (Analyst 2), You sure that you want to stick with this game being meaningless?
- Analyst 2 -** I'm not saying that it's meaningless. I'm saying that we just can't read too much into it. No matter how Wyatt performs, he's still going to be an exceptional talent for many years to come and I don't think that a poor performance tonight indicates any kind of a "choke factor".
- Analyst 1 -** You watch and see what the headlines are tomorrow if Wyatt stinks it up tonight...it's going to be all about whether he's a "choke artist".
- Chris Berman -** Well...there it is folks. We're going to take a short break, then, we'll bring you up to date on what Jacob Wyatt's been up to during his suspension.

**Cut to the ESPN Studios during the Commercial Break**

**Chris Berman -** Has anybody been able to talk to Wyatt yet? What's going on on the ground there?

**Show Director -** No. Piniella's doing his thing, and nobody has been able to get to him. It's not going to happen, Chris. Wyatt's started his pre-game routine and there's just no way to get to him.

**Chris Berman -** Shit! It' woulda been nice to talk to the kid. Get ready fellas. We're back in ten.

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** (After the regular ESPN musical intro). Welcome back to Monday Night Baseball and the return of Jacob Wyatt to the Padres' lineup. As promised, we're ready to bring you up to date on what Wyatt's been doing during his suspension. Here's Fox's Harris Faulkner with a special report on the 13 days since Wyatt's suspension started:

**Harris -** Thanks, Chris. As it turns out, Jacob's been very busy during the suspension. You see...he's been doing some "moonlighting" and has made more money with his new gig than he has playing baseball.

I'll get back to that in a moment...but first, we have some "Breaking News". TMZ is reporting that Jacob and his life-long girlfriend, Fuji, have been secretly engaged for months. (Still photo of Jacob on one knee, proposing).

I spoke with Shelly Wyatt on the phone earlier today, and she confirmed that while Jacob was still with the El Paso Chihuahuas, the family flew to Las Vegas to see Jacob as the Chihuahuas played a three-game series with the Las Vegas "Aviators". While in Las Vegas, the family took a ride on "The High Roller", a giant ferris wheel of sorts that takes passengers high above the Las Vegas Strip skyline. When they were approaching the top of the ride, Jacob formally proposed. In the next hour, TMZ will be posting video of the actual proposal together with interviews of Jacob and Fuji.

**Chris Berman -** Quite a “coup’s” for TMZ. How did they get the exclusive before you?

**Harris -** Yes...a big win for TMZ. It turns out that the video was shot by a young man who was visiting Vegas and filmed the event with his I-Phone. Remember, Chris...this all took place while Jacob was still playing minor-league ball and was generally unknown. The young man didn’t know what he had until after Jacob’s face was plastered all over TV screens and magazine covers. When he realized what he had, his family contacted Jacob through the Padres’ front office. Jacob suggested that he sell the video to the highest bidder. The young man’s family said that they didn’t want to profit from the video. Jacob suggested that they give the money to charity. The young man, who has “down syndrome”, decided to have the money go to the San Diego Down Syndrome Association.

**Chris Berman -** Wow! That’s terrific. Way to go TMZ. That explains how you got scooped.

**Harris -** Oh well...you can’t win ‘em all.

**Chris Berman -** You were about to tell us about what Jacob’s been up to.

**Harris -** Indeed! As I said, Jacob’s been doing quite well with product endorsements. Jacob and the Piniella’s have had their Winnebago’s moved to a park in San Diego. I sat down with Jacob to talk about his activities while he’s been serving his suspension. Here’s a quick clip.

**Cut to Harris Faulkner Interview with Jacob (outside Jacob’s Winnebago)**

**Jacob -** I didn’t choose baseball for the money...but...I’ve always thought that baseball would provide very well. (Smirking), I hope that’s true someday soon. However, so far, I’ve paid more in fines than I’ve made for my time playing in the Major Leagues. So...mom hired an agent for me. He’s a really nice guy from Las Vegas. He’s the guy that made the movie “Million Dollar

Arm” about the two pitchers from India. Anyways, he’s hooked me up with some endorsements. I only endorse companies that I believe in. It’s all things that I own or buy. It’s mostly food and clothes and cars and Apple stuff.

**Harris –** “Food and clothes and cars and phones”? Sounds like typical teenage stuff.

**Jacob -** (Laughing). Yeah...that’s me!

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** Thanks, Harris.

**Harris -** You’re welcome, Chris.

**Chris Berman -** Let’s get a look at some of those commercials that Wyatt’s being doing.

**Cut to Clips from Endorsement Commercials**

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** The kid’s not bad!

**Analyst 1 -** Not bad...he’s a natural. He seems right at home in front of the camera.

**Chris Berman -** He really is a remarkable young man, and tonight we’re going to find out just how remarkable. Enjoy tonight’s game, folks. We’re going to take a break, but when we come back, it’s back to New York where the Mets will face off against the surging San Diego Padres.

**Cut to the Play-by-Play Announcers**

**Announcer -** Welcome to a packed stadium here in New York. (Color Commentator's name), There's a lot of familiar faces in the crowd tonight.

**Color Commentator -** That's for sure (announcer name). It's not just Padres' fans that have made the trip to New York for this game.

**Cut to Video of the Many Celebrities in Attendance**

**Color Commentator -** (Show Hank Aaron, Roger Clemens, Nolan Ryan, Billy Crystal, George Will, Harris Faulkner, Peyton Manning, Magic Johnson, Will Ferrell, Jack Nicholson, Matt Damon, Jerry Seinfeld, Chris Rock, Tom Brady, Alex Rodriguez, Jennifer Lopez and a number of other "celebrities"). It's like a "who's who" of the sports and entertainment world.

**Announcer -** It's clearly going to be a big night here, as the New York Mets face off against Jacob Wyatt and the San Diego Padres. We'll be right back with the first pitch.

**Cut to the Announcers Conversation During a Commercial Break**

**Announcer -** We'd better bring our "A" game tonight. This might be the biggest audience we've ever had.

**Color Commentator -** You ain't kidding!

**Announcer -** We're back in three. (clearly nervous). Here we go. Welcome back to a beautiful evening in New York.

**Fade out, then back to cover Jacob's at-bat in the First Inning**

**Announcer -** Here comes Wyatt with a man on second and two outs.

**Color Commentator -** Yeah...but look at this place! Looking around, you'd think that this was the bottom of the ninth. There isn't anybody sitting, and the noise is deafening.

**Announcer -** Here we go. (Mets' pitcher) into the stretch. Fastball...outside, for ball one.

**Color Commentator -** That fastball missed by a foot. It doesn't look like (Mets' pitcher) wants any part of Wyatt with a runner in scoring position.

**Announcer -** Here's the 1 – 0. Curveball, way inside and low.

**Color Commentator -** I don't know how (Mets' catcher) got a glove on that curveball. That thing was behind Wyatt.

**Announcer -** It looks like you're right. Wyatt may not get a pitch to hit this time.

**Announcer -** (Mets' pitcher) into the stretch. (Screaming)...line drive to left. Here comes (Padres' runner)...the throw is up the line. He scores. Wyatt into second standing. It's 1 – 0 Padres.

**Color Commentator -** Oh my...what a shot. That pitch was well out of the strike zone and he just went out and got it.

**Announcer -** There it is, folks...Wyatt's already changed this game, and he hasn't even been to the mound.

**Cut to Shots of the Crowd, Including the Many Celebrities**

**Fade out...Then Fade Back in to Begin the Bottom of the First**

***(As Jacob toes the rubber to deliver his first pitch, the crowd stands cheering)***

**Announcer -** Welcome back to Citi Field. The Padres put up a run in the top half of the first as Jacob Wyatt drove in (lead-off hitter) with two outs to start the game...and here come the Mets.

**Color Commentator -** This is the down side of having your pitcher in the clean-up spot. He's been on the field for thirteen minutes and goes straight to the mound.



**Announcer -** Not a bad trade-off, though. He starts off with a one run lead and his combined minor league and major league ERA is less than one.

**Color Commentator -** I'm definitely not saying that it's a bad trade-off!

**Announcer -** No – not at all. Here we go. (Mets' lead-off hitter) in the box as Wyatt looks in for a sign. Fastball...on the corner for strike one, called.

**Color Commentator -** That's that back-door, cut fastball. It starts off outside and breaks back over the corner.

**Announcer -** The 0-1, on the way. Fastball...outside corner for strike two.

**Color Commentator -** Wow! That fastball started out on the corner and broke off of the plate to get (Mets' lead-off hitter) swinging. That's just not fair!

**Announcer -** Wyatt ahead 0-2 to start the first. Fastball...strike three swinging!

**Color Commentator -** Talk about unfair! The first two pitches painted the outside corner. That last fastball was up and in and tied (Mets' lead-off hitter) up.

**Announcer -** All fastballs, but all very different. One breaks in – one breaks away, and the third is a 4-seamer right under (Mets' lead off hitters') hands.

**Color Commentator -** Look at Piniella. He's pacing like an expectant father in the hospital waiting room.

**Announcer -** (Laughing). OK – One down in the bottom half of the first as (batter) settles in. (Pause). Wyatt into the wind-up...strike one.

**Color Commentator -** Another back door fastball.

**Announcer -** Wyatt with the 0-1...fastball – strike two called.

**Color Commentator -** That's that 4-seamer again. Right up under his hands.

**Announcer -** Wyatt ahead 0-2 with one out in the bottom of the first. (Pause). Strike three, swinging.

**Color Commentator -** He just doubled-up on that 4-seamer.

**Announcer -** Wyatt's pitching with confidence to start the game. He's coming right at the Mets with fastballs.

**Color Commentator -** That last fastball came in at 102 miles an hour. When you throw that hard, you can get away with coming right at 'em!

**Announcer -** What a start for Wyatt and the Padres (giggling). Here comes Murphy...and he loves fastballs!

**Color Commentator -** Yeah...I don't think Wyatt's gonna throw Murphy all fastballs.

**Announcer -** Two down in the bottom of the first with the Padres ahead 1-0. (Pause). Wyatt's got the sign. Fastball! Fouled straight back for strike one.

**Color Commentator -** What a swing! Murphy had a huge cut at that fastball.

**Announcer -** There was nothing cute about that pitch. That was another 4-seamer on the inside corner at 103 miles an hour. (Pause). The 0-1. (Pause). Fastball...outside corner for strike two called.

**Color Commentator -** He back-doored him there with that cutter and got him looking.

**Announcer -** Wyatt with the 0-2...fastball...just off the corner. Ball one.

**Color Commentator -** He tried to get him swinging. That pitch didn't miss by much.

**Announcer -** Here's the 1-2. Fastball...strike three!

**Color Commentator -** Holy smokes...he did throw him all fastballs. (Pause). Unbelievable!

**Announcer -** Well...we're through one. Wyatt's just struck out the side with ten straight fastballs. Don't go away, folks! You don't want to miss any of this.

**Fade out as the Monday Night Baseball Theme plays.**

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios.**

**Chris Berman -** Alright...well...we're into the eighth inning in New York tonight...and...Wow! If you've missed any of this, here's a quick recap.

The top of the first was all about Jacob Wyatt as he drove in the first run of the game to give the Padres a 1-0 lead.

The bottom of the first was all about Jacob Wyatt as he struck out the side. Ten fastballs – three strikeouts.

In the second, Wyatt changed the pace on the middle of the Mets' line-up by retiring the side on a mixture of change-ups and curve balls, with a few fastballs mixed in.

The third inning was uneventful as Wyatt again retired the Mets in order.

Wyatt was issued an intentional walk to start the fourth. Padres Manager Jayce Tingler put on the hit-n-run, moving Wyatt into scoring position as (Padres' fifth hitter) grounded to second.

On the next pitch, Wyatt stole third to set up the Padres second run as (sixth hitter) hit a sacrifice fly ball into right that scored Wyatt standing up.

In the fifth, the Mets hit some shots off of Wyatt – but they were all fielded for outs as Wyatts' teammates "showed him some glove".

The Padres scored twice in the top half of the sixth, which included a sacrifice bunt by Wyatt to set the table.

Wyatt remained perfect in the bottom half of the seventh, bringing us to the top of the eighth inning, where the Padres lead the Mets 4-0 and Wyatt is just six outs away from a perfect game.

**Chris Berman -** (To studio analysts while smirking) Anything to add, fellas?

**Analyst One -** Not much more to say. You're right. It's all about Jacob Wyatt!

**Analyst Two -** Aside from the 4,5 and 6 hitters in the bottom of the fifth, the Mets haven't even threatened a base hit. He's made a really good Mets' line-up look like they've never seen a good pitcher before.

**Chris Berman -** Hang on. Are you guys seeing this? (Laughing) Oh – that's some funny schtuff! (Starts to say "shit" but catches himself and says "schtuff").

**Analysts -** Schtuff? (Laughing).

**Chris Berman -** Ok – we're going to show you what just happened in New York. (To studio staff) You guys got this?

**Analyst Two -** Is it even possible that he didn't know? (Laughing, incredulous).

**Chris Berman -** Here you go! Wyatt was just caught on camera, apparently...discovering that he's throwing a perfect game.

**Cut to Jacob Wyatt in the Dugout**

(As Wyatt puts on his jacket and sits down on the bench with Lou Piniella, his teammates scatter, leaving them alone on the middle of the bench. Wyatt watches the commotion – looks at Piniella – then gasps “Oh my God” as he jumps to his feet to look up at the scoreboard. Seven innings – no runs, no hits, no errors and no walks. He just can’t believe it! Once again, he stands up at the end of the top step of the dugout and stares at the scoreboard, frozen in disbelief. Just then, he hears the crowd wildly erupt to break his stunned gaze as he realizes that the entire stadium is watching him stare up at the scoreboard on the “Jumbo-tron” screen. Sheepishly, and with no small measure of embarrassment, Jacob sits back down next to Lou in the dugout and pulls the bill of his cap down over his eyes.

**Lou Piniella -** Wake up, kid! You need to keep your head in the game for six more outs (Lou says, sternly).

**Jacob -** (Nods dutifully).

Lou and Jacob sit quietly, staring blankly at the dugout steps ahead of them while the first out of the top of the eighth inning is recorded. Suddenly, Jacob realizes a sudden urge to relieve himself. As he turns to sprint into the locker room, he turns to Piniella and says, “I can’t believe that I’m going to blow this because I’ve gotta pee”!

Lou calmly grabs Jacobs’ glove and starts walking slowly toward the locker room tunnel entry to the dugout. (Jayce Tingler looks at him and, without saying a word, shrugs at Lou to ask what Jacob is doing). Lou smiles and says, “The kid’s gotta pee!” Jacob emerges from the tunnel into the dugout just as his catcher reaches the plate, looking over his shoulder toward the dugout with a look of concern on his face. Standing at the tunnel entry to the dugout is Lou, holding out Jacobs’ glove. Smiling, Lou asks “feel better”? Without responding, Jacob grabs the glove and hands his jacket to Lou. Then, calmly, as though nothing was amiss, Jacob walks toward the mound to begin his warm-up tosses.

As he finishes his warm-up, it occurs to Jacob that he has not followed Piniella's instruction. "My head's not in the game". His untimely pee break and his concern that he would miss out on his warm-up pitches has completely distracted him and his concentration on the details of the game had been broken.

Jacob calls time out and waves at his catcher, Jordan Parker to meet him on the mound. He's really just buying some time while he plans his pitch sequence. When the catcher arrives,

**Jacob -** (To Jordan) Please...just stand quietly while I think. (With his glove covering his mouth) We're gonna start the first guy out with a change-up and the second guy out with a curveball. Then, we'll take 'em all out on fastballs, OK?

**Jordan -** You bet. (As he turns to walk back to the plate.)

(Jacob paws at the dirt in front of the mound. Now, he steps to the rubber and looks in. As planned, his first pitch is a change-up that the Mets' clean-up hitter is way out in front of and swats a lazy ground ball just to the left of the third baseman who easily fields the ball cleanly and delivers the throw crisply to the first baseman to record the first out of the eighth inning. The crowd cheers the play and remains standing as Jacob looks in for the sign from his catcher. As planned, Jordan calls for a curveball. Jacob delivers a picture-perfect curveball over the outside corner for strike one. With the next pitch, Jacob throws a cut fastball at the outside corner that breaks off of the plate for a swinging strike two. The 0-2 pitch is a 4-seam fastball at the letters that absolutely overpowers the batter for a swinging strike three.

Now with two out in the bottom of the eighth, the crowd senses that Jacob is in a groove and that, on this night, he is untouchable. The first pitch to the number six hitter is a back door fastball that is taken for a called strike one. The second pitch is a 4-seam fastball at the letters on the inside corner that is popped up between third base and the dugout and is taken in by the third baseman to record the final out of the eighth inning and the 24<sup>th</sup> consecutive out for Jacob and the Padres.

To start the ninth, Jacob finds himself on deck. Padres Manager, Jayce Tingler steps out onto the field to have a word with his pitcher.

**Cubs Manager -** Hey look...I don't want you on base this inning. Either hit the damned ball out of the park or strike out. You hear?

**Jacob -** Yes sir.

**Cubs Manager -** If you screw up and wind up with a base hit, you get yourself thrown out going for an extra base, you understand?

**Jacob -** Yes sir.

To complicate matters, the lead-off batter started the inning with a double into the gap in right center and the Mets' manager calls for an intentional walk to put Jacob on first.

As Jacob begins his jog down the first base line, Jayce Tingler runs out of the dugout to talk to Jacob.

**Jayce Tingler -** When you get to first, take your lead about half-way to second base and make them tag you out. You got that?

**Jacob -** Yes sir!

The New York crowd reacts with a combination of stunned silence and nervous laughter. The announcers are babbling in disbelief as the Mets' pitcher jogs out onto the infield dirt between first and second base to tag Wyatt out.

As Jacob makes his way to the back of the dugout, his teammates try very hard to avoid making eye contact and try even harder to not laugh (the latter to no avail). Surprisingly, Jacob doesn't hear the laughter. As soon as he puts down his helmet and his bat, Jacob's mind has become singularly focused on the task at hand...the likely seven, eight and nine hitters in the bottom of the ninth.

**Jacob -** (To Lou Piniella) Coach...I need a list of their available players right away.

**Lou Piniella -** (Quickly reaching into his pocket and following Jacob to seats in the middle of the dugout. As he sits down, Lou gives one of his intense “looks” at the surrounding players who immediately scatter in all directions.)

You’re gonna get these three guys in this order: Off the bench, you’ve got the lefty rookie speedster, Ramirez. We’ll bring the guys in at the corners. Give him high heat, because he’s a low-ball hitter and he can’t hurt you deep and he won’t be able to bunt your high fastball. The next two guys are gonna be Sanders and Mullins. Now, I know that you’ve got a great fastball, but Sanders can’t hit a curveball to save his fat ass. Break a couple off on him and he’ll be so screwed up that he’ll never see the fastball you take him out on. Now...Mullins is the key to finishing this thing off. He’s smart and he can hit the ball from inside to out and up to down and he reacts quickly.

**Jacob -** I’ve got Mullins, coach. I’ve been watching him for years and I’ve taken him out many times in my dreams.

(Lou smiles a half smile and watches as Jacob silently sits back and stares blankly at the dugout steps in front of him. For the remainder of the top of the ninth inning, Jacob and Lou sit silently, staring blankly at the dugout steps.

Jacob and Lou pay no attention as the last out of the top of the ninth inning is recorded and the Padres’ players scurry around the dugout and sprint out onto the field. Jacob now calmly stirs, removing his jacket as he stands. Without speaking, Jacob grabs his glove and begins his measured stroll to the mound with his eyes fixed in an intense stare at the rubber.)

**Larry Rothschild -** (Clearly nervous and excited, to Lou) He alright?

**Lou Piniella -** (Lou calmly sits back, crosses his legs and puts both arms up on the top of the backrest. With an arrogant smile – indeed a smirk – Lou slowly replies) Pull up a chair and watch history being made. What you’re about to see is the explosion that destines us to win the World Series and the first of many



great moments in the career of the greatest baseball player to ever play the game.

**Larry Rothschild** - Really?!

**Lou Piniella** - You shittin' me, Larry? This kid is a young, healthy Babe Ruth with speed. He hits and pitches both ways. He's smart and disciplined and he doesn't smoke or get drunk or chase whores. (After a long pause) Yeah...really!

(Some of the Padres' players overhear Lou and sheepishly sit down around him to hear more. Unaware of his audience and as though he was talking to himself out loud.)

Watch him. Look at his face while he warms up. There is absolutely no fear in him. I've never witnessed such a calm focus in my life. In his mind, he's planning his attack like a surgeon plans his cuts. Look in his eyes...he knows that he's untouchable. Watch the way he paws at the dirt on the mound and the way he positions himself before he goes into his wind-up. It's like we're watching an episode of "The Wild Kingdom" with the rattlesnake coiled and ready to strike at the field mouse. Watch as he prepares to deliver the pitch. My God...he lets the ball go with reckless abandon! He's not thinking about his footwork or his arm angle or his release point. He's not throwing to the batter or to the catcher. He's attacking the strike zone like a hurricane attacks a coastline. He's not going to it...he's blowing right through it. When this kid was in Fort Wayne, I flew to New Zealand to spend a couple of days watching all of the film that has ever been taken going back to his days in Little League. This intensity and concentration didn't just happen. He's had it all along. This kid loves this game like I love this game. He loves to win and just hates the idea of losing. He refuses to lose a game...or an inning...or a batter...or even a pitch. I caught the look on his face in the second inning when the Mets' second baseman bobbled that ground ball. He was disgusted. The rest of the team was thrilled to have a base runner. Not Jacob! He was disgusted. Am I sure? Hell yes, I'm sure!

(While the infielders throw the ball around following the warm-up pitches, Jacob grooms the dirt in front of the rubber. Just as the third baseman is about to run the ball to him, Jacob looks up and opens his glove, requesting the ball. As he catches the ball from the third baseman he quickly looks down and picks up the rosin bag and bounces it from the back of his hand to the

front, squeezes it and then throws it down. Without looking up, Jacob steps to the rubber and only then does he look up to the catcher for a sign. Slowly and deliberately, Jacob steps back into his wind up, kicks and fires off a wicked cut fastball just under the letters on the inside corner for strike one. The second pitch to Ramirez is virtually identical to the first and yields the same result...101 miles per hour and just under the letters on the inside corner for strike two. The third pitch to Ramirez is a little different. It's a 4-seam fastball that starts out at the letters on the outside corner and seems to rise. Ramirez cannot hold back his attempt to check his swing and is called out. Jacob has just delivered a 105 mile per hour fastball to strike out the 25<sup>th</sup> Mets' batter of the night.

Lou was right. Sanders is stepping to the plate as Mullins readies himself on deck. As Jacob toes the rubber and looks in for a sign, Sanders calls time out and digs in, kicking dirt in every direction with both feet. Impatiently, Jacob waits for Sanders to get settled. Finally, Sanders is ready, and the catcher puts down a sign. Jacob shakes off the fastball sign and waits for the curve sign. Just as Jacob begins to step back into his wind up, Sanders calls time out and steps out of the box. Irritated, Jacob steps off of the mound to regain his composure and focus, then steps back onto the rubber and looks in for a sign. Once again, Sanders is kicking at the dirt in the batters' box while Jacob waits for a sign.)

**Lou Piniella -** (Lou has not moved from his relaxed position, but rises quickly to his feet and says,) "Oh shit"!

**Jordan -** (The catcher signals for a curveball, but Jacob shakes it off. Jordan puts down a closed fist, then flashes one finger and quietly says to himself) "oh shit", (then knowingly places the target up and in).

(Jacob goes into his wind up and sends a blistering fastball up into Sanders' kitchen, just under his chin, that the catcher cannot field cleanly, and the ball caroms off of his glove and comes to rest against the backstop behind the on-deck circle. Sanders belatedly straightens up and stumbles backward in a feeble attempt to avoid injury as Jacob walks slowly toward the plate with his arm raised and his glove open, requesting a new ball, all the while staring intently at Sanders. Message clearly sent and unhappily received!)

**Umpire -** (In anger, Sanders complains to the home plate umpire, who quickly snaps back with) “now is not the time for this...shut up and get in the box”.

**Lou Piniella -** (In the Padres’ dugout, Lou is laughing and shaking his head as he reassumes his place on the bench, once again with his legs crossed and arms up.) “Gibson”, (he proclaims, and then says), “now watch this”.

Sanders is clearly less settled in the batters’ box as Jacob goes into his wind up. This curveball is much different from his normal, sharp breaking curve. He’s taken quite a bit off of this “round house” breaking ball that starts out at Sanders helmet and slowly breaks down over the plate for a called strike one. Sanders, quite obviously still shaken up by the 104 mile per hour “chin music” he just experienced buckles at the knees and turns away from the pitch. Even the Mets’ bench can’t help but laugh a little bit and Mullins audibly moans and shakes his head in the on-deck circle.

The 1 – 1 pitch is a classic Jacob Wyatt curveball that starts out over the center of the plate and breaks sharply to end up just below the knees and slightly off of the outside corner. Sanders meekly waves at the pitch for strike two.

**Jacob -** (Now at 1 – 2, Jacob has Sanders completely tied in knots. With Sanders ready in the batters’ box, Jacob steps off of the mound and walks back to pick up the rosin bag and says to himself,) “let’s let him think about this”.

**Lou Piniella -** (In the dugout, Lou is giggling like a little girl.) “Classic...freakin classic” (he mutters, then says) “he’s sending a little message to Mullins on deck”. “Hey, I want the radar gun read out on this pitch”.

**Umpire -** (The pitch is a shoulder high 4 seam fastball that takes off as though it was a missile launched from the deck of a modern navy ship.) “Strike three”, (screams the umpire as Sanders attempts to hold up on a late half-swing and Jordan Parker snaps off a quick throw to the third baseman.)

**Pitching Coach -** (In the Padres' dugout, Lou is still calmly sitting in the middle of the bench as Larry Rothchild walks toward him from the front of the dugout.) "107", (says the pitching coach with a big grin on his face).

**Lou Piniella -** "Damn" (says Lou, shaking his head from side to side). "Well...let's see what the kid has for Mullins", (Lou says as he rises to his feet to join the rest of the Padres' players and coaches on the top step of the dugout).

(Mullins is comfortable, alert and confident in the batters' box as he awaits the first pitch. Jacob is relaxed and certain that this is his moment and that even the great Mullins cannot beat him on this night. The first pitch is a backdoor fastball that starts out just under Mullins hands, inside of the zone, and then darts sharply toward the inside corner. Mullins quickly turns on the pitch and connects cleanly with the ball, hammering it down the right field line, but it hooks and touches the ground just outside the chalk line.)

(The 0 – 1 pitch is a sinking fastball that starts out over the outside corner and breaks off of the plate for ball one. Now at 1 – 1, Jacob prepares to throw the pitch that he has been setting up with the first two offerings, the pitch that he is just certain will fool Mullins into missing it just enough to cause him to ground weakly into an infield out or pop-up to end the game. With the 1 – 1 pitch, Jacob throws a wicked change-up...one of those "Trevor Hoffman" change-ups that ties even the best hitters into knots. This pitch starts out over the middle of the plate and waist high, then s-l-o-w-l-y falls away to end up on the outside corner. Jacob is right and Mullins cannot resist swinging. What Jacob doesn't realize is that Mullins is just much better than any hitter he's ever faced. Mullins connects, but is slightly underneath the ball and a little bit early. Mullins lifts a solid fly ball down the right field line and fairly deep. The right fielder is racing toward the ball, but it falls harmlessly between the foul line and the stands for yet another loud strike. That's now twice that Mullins has flirted with beating Jacob and ending the perfect game.

Jacob is a little bit surprised that Mullins has been able to connect so solidly. While the right fielder is running back to his position and the catcher is getting a new ball from the umpire, Jacob steps back behind the mound to bounce the rosin bag on his wrist while he thinks. He really thought the 1 – 1 change up was going to end the game. He now realizes that Mullins is not being fooled and has just missed ruining his night TWICE!

Jacob turns to the plate and signals for the catcher to throw him a new ball. As he catches it, he turns to look at Lou in the dugout. Piniella, who has been silently watching from the top step of the dugout quickly sends a very clear message to Jacob as he points at his pitcher with his left arm while flexing his right arm and pumping his fist. Jacob smiles and turns his eyes away from Piniella.)

#### **Jacob -**

(Under his breath, he says to himself) “just what I was thinking...stop thinking and just throw your best pitch and let the chips fall where they may”.

(With the 1 – 2 pitch, Jacob starts a 4-seam fastball at the letters on the inside half of the plate. Mullins starts to swing but is able to stop his hands just in time to check his swing. The catcher requests that the third base umpire be checked on the play, but he just confirms the call. Mullins is a little concerned after that pitch. He was still confident after the first 3 pitches, but Jacob had a little extra on that 4-seam fastball and Mullins would never have been able to hit that pitch, and he knows it.

Now even at 2 – 2, Jacob is more determined to end the game on this pitch than ever. He senses that he just blew one past Mullins and that Mullins was a little intimidated by the last pitch. Jacob has just decided to reach back and fire a fastball right down the middle and let his strength challenge Mullins strength to decide the game.

The 2 – 2 fastball is a cut fastball that started out over the middle of the plate and thigh high, only to wind up on the inside corner and right in Mullins wheelhouse. This is a classic “catch me if you can” moment. The only difference is that Jacob is letting it all go on this pitch. Mullins sees the ball and turns his hips and swings for the fence with his eyes following the ball all the way toward the bat. It’s power vs. power, and Mullins is just a little bit late and a little bit over the top of the ball. It’s strike three, and the Padres’ players explode from the dugout, onto the field and toward the mound. Piniella remains on the top step and stares out at the scoreboard to see that the pitch registered at 111 miles per hour.)

Jacob drops to his knees on the mound and raises both fists over his head with his head back and his eyes to the sky. Jordan is the first to reach Jacob and lifts him up as the two embrace. Immediately, the two are mobbed by teammates in a wild celebration on the mound. When Jacob can get free, he

begins looking over the heads of his teammates for Lou, who is standing alone at the front of the dugout watching the celebration. Jacob pushes his way through the mob and breaks free, heading directly to Lou. As he approaches, he holds out the ball and puts it in Piniella's hand.

**Jacob -** (To Lou). This is for you, sir, and for everything that you and Mrs. Piniella do for me (as the two embrace).

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** (To analyst 2). So...you still think that this is just one meaningless game in the grand scheme of things?

**Analyst 2 -** You're putting words in my mouth (giggling), but, no! This was anything but meaningless. Wyatt was so dominating from beginning to end that major league baseball just got a huge wake-up call. You're gonna have to find a way to deal with Wyatt.

**Analyst 1 -** Good luck with that!

**Chris Berman -** You've got that right. You can bet that Dodgers and Giants scouts are going through film right now and scratching their heads.

**Analyst 1 -** The Rockies get him next. Good luck Rockies!

**Chris Berman -** (Reporter's name) is in the Padres' locker room and he's with Jacob Wyatt. (Reporter's name).

**Reporter -** Thanks, Chris. Quite a night, Jacob.

**Jacob -** Yes, sir! Tonight was a dream come true. I never imagined a night like we had in San Francisco, but tonight was everything that I ever dreamed and more.

**Reporter -** How are you feeling now that you've pitched your first perfect game?

**Jacob -** I really don't know how I feel right now. This is all still just a little overwhelming. I'm glad that my family was able to be here tonight and I'm really looking forward to seeing them.

**Chris Berman -** (Reporter's name), can you ask Jacob about that moment during the top of the eighth when he was staring up at the scoreboard?

**Reporter -** Chris Berman wants to know about that moment in the top of the eighth when you were staring up at the scoreboard. Were you just realizing that you had a perfect game going?

**Jacob -** (Laughing). Hello Mr. Berman. Wow! Yes! I got caught there, didn't I? I knew we were having a good night, but it didn't really hit me until then. I was really trying to stay focused on what was coming up and not thinking about what had already happened. Yes sir, Mr. Berman. You got me there.

**Reporter -** There you have it Chris.

**Chris Berman -** Thanks, (Reporter's name). Now, we've got (Reporter 2's name) in the Mets' locker room. (Reporter 2's name), what reactions do you have from the Mets?

**Reporter 2 -** Chris, I'm with the last batter to face Wyatt tonight. (To Mullins). So – You almost broke-up the perfect game tonight.

**Mullins -** (Angrily). You don't almost break-up a perfect game. You either do or you don't, and I didn't.

**Reporter 2 -** True. But you ripped two shots that fell just outside the lines. How did you feel as you watched those balls land foul?

**Mullins -** How the hell did you think I felt? (Shaking his head and beginning to calm down). That's what made him perfect tonight. He made you miss by just a little bit. You think that you've got it, but you're just a little bit under it or just a little bit over it. Or you're just a little bit early or a little bit too late. That's why he was perfect tonight. He never let up. FOCUS! That's why he was perfect tonight. It's because he was so focused that he didn't make any mistakes.

**Reporter 2 -** Any predictions? How good do you think Wyatt is going to be?

**Mullins -** I don't have any damned predictions. There's no way to tell if the kid's going to be good or not. Tonight – he wasn't good. He was great! Tonight – he was no bullshit the best I've ever seen. I've seen some great pitching. I've seen some no-hitters that were pure dumb luck and I've seen some amazing pitching performances that ended up in losses. What I saw tonight was complete and total dominance in every way from the first pitch to the last. Overwhelming stuff! Pinpoint control! But above all, total focus from beginning to end. But...predictions? Anybody that thinks he can predict how good the kid's gonna be is full of shit. Baseball is the great equalizer. Seasons are long and the ball bounces funny. The real question is, what's the kid going to do when he doesn't have his stuff or when he can't hit his



spots? What's he going to do when his best pitch gets ripped? How's he going to act when he falls behind? Tonight, he was focused. What's going to happen when he loses his focus? Can he regroup and get it back? Tonight – he was the best I've ever seen...maybe the best anybody's ever seen. And that ain't nothin!

**Chris Berman -** That's it, folks. I can't say it any better than that. Tonight...we witnessed a performance that just might be the best anybody's ever seen. And that ain't nothin!

**Cut to Hotel Restaurant for Breakfast after No-Hitter**

**Shelly -** (The entire family, except for Jacob and Lou is assembled at the breakfast table. Jacob is sleeping in after a physically and emotionally draining late night game. Shelly has carefully planned out their travels to coincide with the Padres.) So, here's what we've got. Today is a day off. The next three days are in Colorado. I think you'll really like Denver and Boulder. From there, it's two days in Phoenix and then they're home in San Diego for a week. Jacob and Lou will have to leave straight from here to the airport, but we have a few hours before we need to head out to the airport and Anita isn't leaving until tonight. I was thinking that we can maybe enjoy a nice lunch in "Little Italy" or in "Chinatown".

**Larry -** I don't know about anybody else, but Italian sure does sound good.

**Freddie J -** I agree!

**Shelly -** Well...miracles do happen! (Laughter from all). How about you Fuji? Is there anything that you want to do before we leave New York?

**Fuji -** We left in such a hurry that I forgot that I had taken my favorite sandals out of my bag while we were at home. If you don't mind, I'd really like to get some comfortable sandals.

**Anita -** There's plenty of shops in "Little Italy". I'm sure we can find something that you'll like there.

**Shelly -** How about you, Freddie?

**Freddie J -** Nope. I'm just enjoying the ride. (As Freddie is speaking, Jacob and Lou arrive to join the rest of the family. Hugs all around).

**Lou -** Did I hear somebody say something about lunch in "Little Italy"? Anita loves the restaurants and shops down in "Little Italy".

**Anita -** That's one of the things that I really miss about New York.

**Shelly -** Perfect! You can be our guide.

**Jacob -** (To Lou). Looks like we'd better enjoy this breakfast. We're going to miss out on lunch in "Little Italy".

**Lou -** (Groans).

**Larry -** (To Jacob and Lou). How are you two doing this morning? (Both just smile and giggle).

**Lou -** (To Jacob). Yeah...how you doing this morning, kid?

**Jacob -** I slept well last night. I'm feeling really good today, boss. (Lou just smiles and nods).

**Larry -** Perfect game your second time out! Looks like you just might make it in the major leagues.

**Jacob -** (Changing the subject). If we're gonna catch the Dodgers, we're going to have to win a lot of games and we're going to need some help. Time is not our friend right now.

**Lou -** You just keep on doing your thing and let your teammates do the rest. You're going to see some amazing things in the next several weeks. These guys just caught fire and all you're going to need to do is play your game and keep your focus. Your teammates will do the rest.

**Anita -** He's right, Jackie. (Fuji often calls Jacob "Jackie", from his middle name "Jackson". Anita picked it up from Fuji). Last night felt like a playoff game. You could just feel the intensity.

**Fuji -** Wow! I thought it was just me.

**Jacob -** What do you mean, baby?

**Fuji -** It was amazing. After the 4<sup>th</sup> inning, everybody was just like us. The whole stadium was completely into the emotion of the game. Every pitch! Just like us. (Lou laughing out loud).

**Anita -** This all happened for you at just the right time. Right about now is when things start to get very real. Fatigue starts to take it's toll on the losing teams

and they start to give up. You start to see disagreements and arguments and fights in the locker rooms. But...the teams with character...the winners, all start to come together and to focus. You're going to see "hustle plays". Guys beating out ground balls and guys making amazing plays. Not to make the highlight reels, but to help out their teammates. Fuji's right. After the 4<sup>th</sup> inning, you started to win over the Mets' fans and the intensity was incredible. The fans RAN to the bathrooms between innings. And Lou's right too. I don't know your teammates, but I know that they will be giving you everything they've got. You just be yourself and everything else is going to fall into place for you.

**Lou -** When I was managing, I would always tell Anita that we just needed to get to "the turn" and have something big happen. It's like in horse racing, where the horses start into the last turn and head into the home stretch. You don't have to be in the lead going into the turn. You just have to be in a good place to make the final run. And something needs to happen to get everybody motivated in a big way. Maybe it's something really good, like a trade for a clubhouse leader that kicks everybody into gear. Maybe it's benching a player that's not hustling. Maybe it's just a big blow-up between players that gets everybody going. Some really good teams never make it into the playoffs because they don't get motivated. The Padres just got that kick and you can see it in the dugout. Everybody's just shifted into another gear and they're ready to run. You gave them that "something big" that they needed.

**Larry -** You talking about last night?

**Lou -** No. (Lou pauses, with a big smile). You tell 'em, honey (to Anita).

**Anita -** (Nodding and smiling). It happened in San Francisco!

**Jacob -** Oh boy (he groans).

**Lou -** You have no idea how big that was. (To Jacob). When you hit their pitcher and decked that guy on the mound, you gave the Padres exactly what they needed going into the turn. You started the fire that will carry the Padres across the finish line. Anita and I both knew it that night. This is a really exciting time, kid! You just do your thing and you're going to be amazed at how your teammates are going to respond.

**Jacob -** Wow! And I thought it was a horrible night.

**Lou -** It was a tough night for you, but it was an absolutely perfect night for the San Diego Padres.

**Cut to Announcer in Colorado**

**Announcer -** Here we go! Last chance for the Rockies as the Padres have been clinging to a 3-1 lead. The Rockies jumped out to a 1-0 lead in the second on a solo home run. The Padres struck back with 2 in the top half of the 6<sup>th</sup> and added a run in the eighth.

Ball one as Wyatt misses a little bit inside. The Rockies have put together 5 hits tonight but have not been able to get them across as Wyatt and the Padres' defense have tightened to strand every baserunner, save for Ramirez who went deep in the second. Strike one as Wyatt paints the outside corner to even the count. The Padres have a chance to sweep the series if they can hold on here in the ninth, to register their sixth straight win. Foul ball to make the count one and two with two out here in the last of the ninth.

The Padres haven't been getting a lot of help in their run at the Giants and Dodgers as the Dodgers have won 6 of their last 7 and the Giants have won 5 of their last 7. Ball two...just off of the plate to even the count at 2 and 2. The Padres have a chance to pick up a game on the Dodgers tonight, as the Dodgers lost their game today. Here's the two - two...fly ball to shallow left center. That's it! The Padres record their sixth straight and pick up a game on the Dodgers and a half a game on the Giants, who have the day off.

**Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -** It looks like it's going down to the wire in the NL West, as the Giants and Padres are both trying to catch the Dodgers. The Dodgers are not giving this thing away...they have won 9 of their last 14, which has kept them ahead of the Giants by 5 games, who have also been playing well. The Giants have won 4 straight and 8 of their last 13. The Padres are the surprise in the west as they have won 11 of their last 13 and have picked up 3 games on the Giants and two and a half on the Dodgers. Going into today's play, just 5 ½ games separate the three teams.

The next several weeks are going to decide who represents the West in the NL playoffs as the Dodgers and Padres will face each other 10 times to finish the season, including the final 3 games of the season, which will be played in San Diego. The Giants will see the Dodgers 7 more times this year and the Padres and Giants will face off 5 times. In all likelihood, the team that performs the best in those 22 games will win the division.

So, gentlemen...who do you like to finish this thing off?

**Analyst 1 -** Obviously, the Dodgers are in the drivers' seat. The defending World Series Champs have a solid lead of 5 games and 5 ½ games and they have the deepest line-up and the strongest starting rotation, Jacob Wyatt notwithstanding.

**Analyst 2 -** I disagree. Yes...a 5 ½ game lead is daunting...but take a look at how the Padres have been playing since Wyatt joined the roster. It's not just that they're winning games, it's how they're winning. And...it's not just when Wyatt is on the mound. Their defense has been exceptional, and they are driving in runs opportunistically. 11 wins in their last 13 games is impressive. I just don't think there is anybody playing better baseball than the Padres. And their bullpen has been among the best in baseball.

- Chris Berman -** How about that (Analyst 1's name)? How do you stop the Padres with Wyatt and with the way his teammates are responding?
- Analyst 1 -** There's no question that Wyatt is the best pitcher in the game at this moment. But the Dodgers are deep from top to bottom, and they are experienced. The Dodgers don't really have any weaknesses and they've been here before. They're going to be very tough to beat.
- Analyst 2 -** But Wyatt isn't just a pitcher. He's two pitchers. He's not just the best pitcher in the game, he's the best right-handed pitcher AND the best left-handed pitcher. He's also the one batter that nobody wants to face right now.
- Chris Berman -** You know where I am on this. I've been saying all along that the Padres were going to fall short of catching L.A. this year and I still think that 5 ½ games is too much with a team like the Dodgers. But I've gotta tell 'ya, I'm starting to become a believer! Think about it...the Dodgers won 9 of their last 14 games and still gave back 2 ½ games to the Padres. As you know, I spent a little time with Wyatt and Piniella this week when I was honored to witness the wedding of Jacob Wyatt and his beautiful bride, Fuji Wyatt. I've got to tell you...their excitement and optimism is infectious. Piniella told me flat out that the Padres were going to win it all this season.
- Analyst 1 -** Piniella is hardly an objective voice. He's pretty much gotta say that.
- Chris Berman -** I don't know. I've known Lou for a long time, and I have never seen him so thoroughly convinced. Even when the Yankees were dominating.
- Analyst 2 -** I'm telling you, the Padres are playing ridiculous baseball right now and I just don't see them slowing down.
- Chris Berman -** There you have it. The Dodgers get two votes, the Padres get one and the Giants just aren't getting any love. As promised, I have Jacob Wyatt here to

talk about the National League West pennant race. Congratulations again on your wedding Jacob. How are you doing this afternoon?

**Jacob -** Hello Mr. Berman. I'm doing terrific! How are you?

**Chris Berman -** I'm good Jacob. So...it's coming down to the wire and the Dodgers and Giants just aren't going away. How are you going to catch up with less than a month to go?

**Jacob -** You said it, Mr. Berman. 15 of our 26 games are against the Dodgers and Giants. I'm not suggesting that it's going to be easy, because it's not going to be easy. We can't afford to let down in the 11 games we have left that are not with the Dodgers and Giants and we absolutely can't afford to lose to either L.A. or San Francisco. That said...my teammates are incredible competitors. I can't believe how tough these guys are. Our locker room is a really fun place. I've never experienced anything like the feeling I get from just being around these guys. Everybody's having fun and everybody's ready to do anything to help the other guys out. This team isn't about to let up. We're battling in every at bat and we're fighting for every out. We don't expect the Giants to go away and we don't expect the Dodgers to go away. We aren't going away either!

**Chris Berman -** Let's get specific. You have 26 games left and the Dodgers have 27. If the Dodgers win 17 of their remaining 27 games, you will have to win 21 of your remaining 26 games.

**Jacob -** Yes sir. Look at it this way. If we can win 7 of the 10 games we have against the Dodgers, and if the Giants can win at least two of the seven games that they play against the Dodgers, that's nine losses for the Dodgers. They play 7 of their remaining 10 games in New York; 3 against the Mets and 4 in interleague play against the Yankees. Even if they win 5 of those 7 games in New York and all of their remaining three games, that's 11 losses for the Dodgers.



**Chris Berman -** Okay Jacob...you're saying that you think the Dodgers are going to lose 11 of their remaining 27 games. Even if you're right, you're going to need to win 20 of your remaining 26, and most of them against really good teams!

**Jacob -** What I'm saying is that we need to win at least seven of the 10 games we have against the Dodgers. As long as we can do that...yes, sir! That puts us in the drivers' seat.

**Chris Berman -** That's a tall order, Jacob. I can't help but ask you what makes you so sure? What is making you so confident that you can beat the Dodgers 7 out of 10 and win 20 of your last 26 games?

**Jacob -** (Pause – smiling). It's Mrs. Piniella.

**Chris Berman -** Mrs. Piniella?

**Jacob -** Yes sir. You see...back when we were still in El Paso playing for the Chihuahua's, I got up one night because I just couldn't sleep. I rarely have any trouble getting to sleep, but it was after midnight and I had been trying to get to sleep for hours. Jordan was asleep on the sofa bed, so I got up and went out on the patio. I was surprised to see Mrs. Piniella out on the patio also. She asked me what was wrong, and I told her that nothing was wrong. I just couldn't get to sleep.

We sat together for awhile. She told me that I had better hurry up and get ready because things were about to change in a very big way. She talked about the Padres and how good they looked. She said that the Padres were about to make a hard run at the division and that they would be looking to add some new players to the roster. She basically predicted us being called up just two days before it happened. She said that this Padres team was going to be like the 1969 Mets. She really had my attention!

**Chris Berman -** I'll bet she did!

**Jacob -** She said that few would argue that the Miracle Mets were the best team in baseball that year. In fact, it's not at all unusual that the World Series Champions are not the best teams in baseball. She said that the Miracle Mets were a team of destiny. She told me that she was certain that this Padres team was also a team of destiny. She said that she had a very vivid dream.

She told me that nobody can predict what my baseball career was going to be like. But she said that this year was going to be an amazing year...so I'd better fasten my seat belt and hang on tight! She said that I should drink it all in...not miss out on anything...just soak it all up. That has been some very good advice!

**Chris Berman -** Yes it was. Then...you're saying that this Padres team is a team of destiny?

**Jacob -** Yes sir! I believe it. I believe that I have been blessed to become a part of a true team of destiny.

**Chris Berman -** Wow! Well Jacob...that explains it. There's a lot of people that hope you're right...that hope that the Padres are a team of destiny.

**Cut to Anaheim Hotel Coffee Shop with Lou, Larry Rothschild, Jacob, Jordan, Tatis, Machado and two other Padres players**

**Jayce Tingler -** Listen up! We've gotta make some changes and I don't want anybody freaking out. We've come too far and we're too damned close to winning this thing to let hurt feelings keep us from getting into the post season. You all agree with me on that? (Everyone nods their agreement). We lost an important arm last night. Washington's done. He's got some problems going on with his shoulder that may need to be surgically repaired. He's been our best middle reliever all year and we're gonna miss him and we all love the

guy. He's really pissed off right now. He says he can work through it, but we cannot afford to take the chance. We're going to need every arm that we can get if we're going to catch L.A., and we're going to need everybody...and I mean **everybody** 100% healthy and 100% committed to winning. Do you understand? (Everyone nods in agreement).

You're the leaders on this team and I'm counting on all of you to keep this party going. If you stick with me on this, you will look back on this moment as the time that the Padres became the NL West Champs!

I need everybody in the locker room an hour early for a team meeting. Especially you!

You all with me? (All agree).

Great job last night, gentlemen. I'm so proud of you that I could just bust! I'll be in my room for a few hours if any of you need to talk. Otherwise, I'll see you in the locker room. Thanks! (Tingler gets up from the table and leaves).

**Larry Rothschild** - (Following a period of stunned silence). Hey guys...I'll be in my room if you want to talk to me too.

**Lou Piniella** - Thanks, coach. You sure you don't want to stay for breakfast?

**Larry Rothschild** - No, thanks. Enjoy your breakfast, guys!

**Lou Piniella** - I hope the rest of you will stay for breakfast. I'm buying!

**Player One** - I'm going to get a shower and relax a bit, Lou. I'm not really hungry yet.

**Fernando Tatis** - I'll have breakfast.

**Manny Machado** - Yeah...me too.

**Lou -** (To player one). Enjoy your nap.

**Player One -** (Laughing). I will. Enjoy your breakfast, guys.

**Lou -** (To the table). So...who's pissed off?

**Fernando Tatis -** (After a long pause). I don't know, man. If it wasn't for Washington, we wouldn't be in this thing. Not even close!

**Lou -** You're right.

**Fernando Tatis -** I mean...I can't blame him for being pissed off. How can you throw a guy like that to the curb?

**Lou -** Is that what you think is happening? You think Washington's getting kicked to the curb?

**Fernando Tatis -** Sure looks like it to me.

**Lou -** How about you? (To Manny Machado).

**Manny Machado -** Doesn't feel right to me either.

**Lou -** Well...that's why Tingle called you down here this morning. He's counting on you to back him up in the meeting tonight. He's counting on you to be smarter and stronger than everybody else.

**Fernando Tatis -** Smarter and stronger?

**Lou -** Come on, guys. Think! We've won 14 of our last 16 games. We're on a roll and within striking distance of winning the division. This is the hottest team in baseball. Do you think he wants to throw away his best bullpen guy right now? Shit...we don't need less pitchers, we need more. Especially in the playoffs. Yes...smarter and stronger. Smart enough to know that he's doing what's best for the team and strong enough to back him up in the meeting tonight. Courageous enough to stand tall with him EVEN IF you really believe that he's dead wrong. This is a team game, and the team can only win if it's working together. Togetherness requires leadership. You're leaders and you're being called on to lead. My God! Everybody wants to be a leader and everybody thinks that they should be the leader. Leadership ain't easy. It takes balls! Leaders have to do things that they don't want to do for the good of the team.

You can't change the decisions that have already been made. You've gotta ask yourself if the team is better off with you backing your manager...helping to pull this team together as leaders. It's time to "sack-up" fellas! Either lead or step aside and let somebody else do the job for you. This is no time for whiney little bitches!

**Manny Machado -** Well...when you put it like that! (Laughter).

**Cut to the Visitors' Locker Room, Anaheim Stadium**

**Jayce Tingler -** (Pacing in front of the team in silence). Is anybody here tired of winning? (Team responds). Is there anybody here that is not willing to do ANYTHING to help this team keep on winning? (Team responds).

Now...I'm a huge believer in the old saying "if it ain't broke – don't fix it". Who agrees with me? (Team responds). Well...sometimes shit happens. Sometimes things break. We suffered a huge loss last night. As most of you

have already heard, Washington has been placed on the injured list and there's a chance that he's gone for the rest of the season. (Dead silence).

To be very clear...we would not be where we are today without Washington. He's given us more quality innings and put out more fires than anybody.

You've gotta know that I don't want to look down into the bullpen and not see him there. But...we don't have a choice. I think we all owe it to him to pull together as a team and win! Win it all to make sure that his hard work all season doesn't get wasted. (Pause, as Padres' Manager looks out over the team to see Gabriel Washington walk into the locker room with his wife and son at hand).

(Tingler points to the back of the room and applauds. The entire team stands and cheers Washington as he makes his way to the front of the locker room).

**Gabriel Washington -** First off, I owe this team an apology. As most of you know, I had a little meltdown last night. (Laughter). I was wrong. I almost cost us the game last night because I'm not at 100% right now.

You've gotta understand! I don't want to sit this out. I don't want to miss out on a thing. I've never been so close to living out my dream. But it's not just my dream. It's yours too.

So...I went home last night all pissed off. My wife, Treena, tried to talk to me. That didn't go so good. (Laughter). So this morning, she sends my son in to talk to me. He asks me "what's gonna happen to the Padres?" I said "that's not my damned problem any more". He asked, "is there anything you can do to help them win?" I just stared at him until he left the room.

So...a few minutes later, Treena comes in and says, "your son asked you a question"! I said...WHAT? She says, "your son asked you if there is anything that you can do to help the Padres win". She said, "you're never going to get a better chance to show your son what it is to be a man...what it takes to be part of a team...to be a family". She said, "you have a lot to be proud of, but...maybe...it's time to set aside your pride and do what's right for everybody else".

Yeah...shit just got REAL! (Laughter).

So...I'm here right now for my wife...and for my son...and for you, my brothers. I'm setting aside my pride. I'm here to tell you that I'm a part of this family and I'm with you all the way to the end. (Cheering).

It don't matter how we win...and it don't matter who's out there when we win. It only matters THAT we win!!

(Wild cheering as Washington and Tingler embrace. Washington sits down and Tingler steps to the front of the room).

**Jayce Tingler -**

We're gonna have three new faces in the dugout tonight. Two new arms and a bat. I'm counting on all of you to make sure that they know that, like he said (pointing at Washington), we are not just a team...we are a family. Make sure that they know that they are now a part of this family, and we expect them to do their part.

Let's go win a game!!!

### **Cut to Chris Berman in the ESPN Studios**

**Chris Berman -**

Finally tonight, let's take a look at the wild, wild NL West. Man-oh-man are things getting interesting out west where the Dodgers are trying to hold off challenges from the north and from the south. The San Francisco Giants and the San Diego Padres are just refusing to go away quietly. Last night, the Giants hosted the Dodgers in the second game of a three-game series that saw the Dodgers win the opener. Early on, it looked like the Giants were going to blow the Dodgers out as they had a seven run second inning and chased Dodgers' starter (name) after just one and two-thirds innings.

The Dodgers chipped away with two in the fourth and two in the fifth to make it 7-4 Giants going into the top of the eighth. It looked like the Giants were out of the 8<sup>th</sup> when (Dodgers' players name) grounded into a force at second base to end the inning. But wait...Dodgers' manager Dave Roberts quietly walked out of the Dodgers' dugout to challenge the call, saying shortstop Brandon Crawford was pulled off the bag by the throw. Much to the displeasure of Giants' manager Gabe Kapler, the Giants were forced back onto the field with bases loaded and two outs.

Kapler immediately called in his closer (closer's name). One pitch later, the Dodgers were up 8-7.

It remained 8-7 going into the bottom of the 9<sup>th</sup>.

Surprisingly, Dodgers' closer Kenley Jensen hit the leadoff batter and walked the next man up to put two on with nobody out in the ninth. A sacrifice bunt by (Giants' player) moved the runners into scoring position with one out. Roberts issued an intentional walk to load the bases. Jensen struck out (Giants' player) to make it two outs and bases loaded with center fielder Mike Yastrzemski stepping into the box. Here's the Giants' Duane Kuiper with the call.

**Duane Kuiper -** Here's the one-one with two out and the bases loaded in the bottom of the ninth. Yaz goes right up the middle! One run's in. Here comes Moreno. It's gonna be close. He's safe! He's safe! Giants win!!

**Chris Berman -** So...the Giants pick up a game on the Dodgers and opened the door for the Padres to do the same. The Padres started the day in Anaheim with some really bad news. Long reliever Gabriel Washington was placed on the 10 - day injured list and he might be lost for the season. Padres' manager Jayce Tingler had this to say before last night's game.

**Jayce Tingler -** All year long, my first thought when we get in trouble is Gabe Washington. He's put out more fires than anybody in the league this year. Losing Gabe is a huge loss and we're really gonna miss him. The other guys are going to have to really step up if we're gonna finish this thing off.

**Chris Berman -** Ouch! Not a good time to be losing a key player. So...how did the Padres respond? They responded by putting up five runs in the top of the first on the Angels and cruising to a 6-3 victory behind Jacob Wyatt. Wyatt blew through the Angels line-up using only 72 pitches to go the distance. 72 pitches total! In case you're wondering, that's not even close to a record. You have to go back to 1944, when Boston Braves' pitcher Charley "Red" Barrett shut out the Reds 2-0 using just 58 pitches! Still, 72 pitches in this day and age is quite



an accomplishment. This is what Padres' pitching coach, Larry Rothschild, had to say.

**Larry Rothschild -** That's the smartest game I've seen Jake throw. He went out with a five-run lead and he didn't waste a single pitch. He didn't nibble at the corners and he didn't get rattled when they did hit the ball. He trusted his stuff and he just kept on challenging them to put the ball in play. Ground balls...pop flies...more ground balls. He put the ball in play and trusted his teammates to make the plays. 17 years old, and that was the smartest pitching performance that I've seen in a long damned time. Smart and disciplined! It's a deadly combination.

**Chris Berman -** Smart and disciplined...and a 100 mile an hour fastball! A deadly combination, indeed.

**(Cut to a series of baseball clips, newspaper articles and magazine covers showing the Padres battling through their remaining games to end up tied with the Dodgers with just one game remaining in the regular season)**

**Cut to Chris Berman in Petco Park, San Diego**

**Chris Berman -** Welcome to beautiful downtown San Diego, California and the regular season finale of ESPN Sunday Night Baseball. Tonight, the San Diego Padres host the defending World Series Champion Los Angeles Dodgers in a winner-take-all showdown to determine the winner of the NL West Title. Both teams are at 102 wins against 59 losses. The winner of tonight's game will fill the last open slot in the National League playoffs and the loser will go home.

When this three-game series began two nights ago, the Dodgers and Padres were tied at 101 wins and 58 losses. The Padres took the opener 3-1 and the Dodgers won the second game last night 4-0, setting up a series and

season finale for all the marbles. I had an interesting conversation earlier today with Jacob Wyatt.

**Cut to San Diego Trailer Park**

**Chris Berman -** Good morning baseball fans. I'm in San Diego this morning with San Diego Padres' star Jacob Wyatt. Good morning, Jacob.

**Jacob -** Good morning, Mr. Berman.

**Chris Berman -** Jacob, the Padres missed an opportunity to win the NL West last night. Tough loss.

**Jacob -** Yes sir. Very tough loss. But yesterday is over and it all comes down to tonight.

**Chris Berman -** Yes it does. How are you feeling about tonight?

**Jacob -** Mr. Berman, I'm feeling great about tonight. You know, I think this has always been meant to come down to the last game of the season, and here we are. One game between two very determined competitors. It just doesn't get any better than this. Of course, I would have been much happier if we would have won last night, but that was not meant to be.

**Chris Berman -** Jacob, you pitched Friday night. You went 7 2/3 innings and threw 96 pitches. That's a lot of pitches just two nights ago. Is there a chance that you'll be on the mound tonight?

**Jacob -** Yes sir. I don't know who's starting tonight, but I told them that I'm ready to go. I've never gone on one day – four days rest. It's almost always been two days – five days. I don't know who's starting, but if I don't start, I'll be ready to come in from the bullpen.

**Chris Berman -** The Padres didn't look sharp last night, and you didn't get into the game. Last night, it didn't look like there was any fight left in the Padres.

**Jacob -** Don't let last night fool 'ya. There's plenty of fight left in the Padres. We had two very emotional nights. Thursday night, we tied the Dodgers. Friday night, we took a one game lead for the first time this season. We had a little bit of a let down last night. But you can be sure that everybody will be ready tonight. We're leaving it all out there tonight. We've come a long way, Mr. Berman. We are going the distance!

**Cut to Chris Berman at Petco Park, San Diego**

**Chris Berman -** So, here we are, gentlemen. Two nights ago, the Padres juggernaut rolled over the Dodgers and it looked like Wyatt's "team of destiny" predictions were right on the mark. Last night, the Padres went out with a whimper as they were shut out by the Dodgers without putting up a fight. What's it gonna be, fellas? Have the Padres finally run out of gas?

**Analyst One -** They may be out of gas, Chris. Jayce Tingler may have squeezed the last drop of energy from the arms he has left to finish this off. He can't start Wyatt on one day of rest. Wyatt threw almost 100 pitches Friday night as a righty and over 120 pitches Tuesday night as a lefty. 220 pitches in a four-day span. Even Wyatt cannot be expected to do any more than that. His next two options threw a combined 108 pitches less than 24 hours ago, as Tingler tried to win it all last night. He's left with his number 4 starter and a very good, but very overworked bullpen to face off with the Dodgers' ace.

Take nothing away from the Padres! They have performed heroically against all odds and they've had an amazing season that they can build on for next season. But...the Dodgers are just too talented and too deep.

**Chris Berman -** (To analyst two). You buying that? Are the Padres out of ammunition?

**Analyst Two -** Maybe...maybe (analyst one) is right and the Padres have won their last game. But...think about it. Before last night, the Padres were up one game with two to play. All of the talk was about the unstoppable Padres. One day later and we're writing their obituary? I say put away your pencils and let's see how this game plays out. Yes...the Dodgers have their ace going against the Padres #4 starter. But the Padres have been consistently beating ace pitchers for months. And you're forgetting about the Padres wild card. Even on short rest, Wyatt says he's feeling great and ready to go. Don't be surprised to see Jayce Tingler call on Wyatt to finish this season off. I'm with Wyatt! I think the Padres are ready to "go the distance".

**Chris Berman -** Well...there you have it!

**Analyst One -** (Interrupting). Wait a minute! What about you Chris? Do you think the Dodgers are just too much for the Padres?

**Chris Berman -** Yeah...(pause). That's what I've been saying all along. Logic says the Dodgers will win tonight and cruise on into the World Series.

I'm not going with the conventional wisdom any more. Every time I look at the NL West, I tell myself that I've gotten too close to the Wyatt's and that my vision is clouded by emotion. I've been relying entirely on logic and listening to the conventional wisdom. Well...I just don't think logic is right this time. This time, I think Anita Piniella is right. I too believe that the Padres are a "team of destiny". Jacob was right when he said that "this has always been meant to come down to the last game of the season".

You all saw a few minutes of my conversation with Jacob Wyatt this morning. When the cameras were off, we continued to talk for almost 40 minutes. I

keep calling Jacob a kid...and...at just 17 years old, to me, he is a kid. But he really is not a kid. Especially when it comes to baseball. This young man has a maturity...a wisdom about him. Talking baseball with Jacob Wyatt is like talking baseball with a seasoned veteran. And...there you have it! I say the Padres will win tonight and I say that the Padres will not only win the last game of the regular season...I say the San Diego Padres will win the last game of the World Series.

**Cut to ESPN play-by-play**

**ESPN Announcer** - Three innings are in the books in San Diego and we're still scoreless. The Dodgers stranded runners in scoring position in the first and third innings and the Padres were 90 feet away from taking the lead in the second. So far, the story has been the defensive play of the two center fielders as Dodgers' center fielder Cody Bellinger ended the second inning with an over-the-shoulder catch on the warning track and Padres' center fielder Trent Grisham ended the top of the third inning with an extra base robbing diving catch.

**ESPN Color Commentator** - Defensive gems have been the story so far, but just a few minutes ago, Petco Park just erupted as Jacob Wyatt left the Padres' dugout and headed out to the bullpen to start warming up.

**ESPN Announcer** - That's right (Commentator's name). Ladies & gentlemen, Jacob Wyatt has started warming up in the Padres' bullpen. The excitement level in Petco Park just skyrocketed!

**ESPN Color Commentator** - The questions now are can Wyatt be effective after throwing 220 pitches in the last four days, and if so, how many innings can you get from him.

**ESPN Announcer** -For now, Jayce Tingler is sticking with (# 4 starter's name), who has been solid through 3. Here we go! The Dodgers are sending up the heart of the line-up, the 5, 6 and 7 hitters. (Dodgers' # 5 hitter) takes the first pitch outside for ball one.

**ESPN Color Commentator** - If you're the Dodgers, you want to get to (Padres' # 4 starter) right now. You want to get a lead and force Tingler to make a decision about Wyatt as soon as possible.

**ESPN Announcer** -The one-oh pitch catches the outside corner to even the count. You said that the Dodgers need to force Tingler to make a decision on Wyatt. Don't you think that decision has already been made?

**ESPN Color Commentator** - Not necessarily. Larry Rothschild is in the Padres' bullpen, watching Wyatt very closely. This may just be a temperature check. See how he feels....check his velocity.

**ESPN Announcer** -Fly ball...fairly deep. Grisham back...to his right. He's got it. That's one out here in the 4<sup>th</sup>.

**ESPN Color Commentator** - Grisham has been busy tonight. The Dodgers may want to start hitting the ball someplace else.

**ESPN Announcer** -(Laughing). Okay...that's one down here in the top of the 4<sup>th</sup>. That brings up (Dodgers' # 6 hitter). (# 6 hitter) struck out to start the second inning after hitting a blast that missed the foul pole by a few feet. Fouled straight back for strike one.

**ESPN Color Commentator** - (# 6 hitter) had a huge cut at that pitch.

**ESPN Announcer** -He was just under it. Here's the oh-one. Shot! Right down the line. It's extra bases for (#6 hitter). (#6 hitter) in standing at second as Tatis holds the cut-off. The Dodgers are threatening here in the 4<sup>th</sup> with a runner in scoring position and one out.

**ESPN Color Commentator** - This is exactly what I was talking about. This is what the Dodgers needed to do.

**ESPN Announcer** -You called it. Here comes Jayce Tingler out of the Padres dugout and he's headed to the mound. Alright (Commentator's name). If you're Tingler, what do you do?

**ESPN Color Commentator** - I'd be very reluctant to bring Wyatt in this early. (Padres' #4 starter) has been very good so far. He's thrown less than 70 pitches. If you bring Wyatt in now, you've got 6 2/3 innings left to go. You risk Wyatt running out of gas before this is over. He may be going out to give Wyatt some more time to warm up, but I don't think that he wants to bring him in this early.

**ESPN Announcer** -Well, here's your answer. Tingler is sticking with his starter and he's calling for an intentional walk. That brings up Dodgers' catcher Will Smith with two on and one out in the 4<sup>th</sup>. Smith takes high for ball one. Smith hit a fly ball to center in his first at bat. Here's the one-oh...outside for ball two.

**Color Commentator** - Smith has been a real star for the Dodgers all year. His two-run blast last night gave the Dodgers an early lead, and it turned out to be the game winning RBI.

**ESPN Announcer** -Here comes the two-oh to Smith. One hopper to...bad bounce! Horrible bad bounce. That ball is rolling for the wall behind first. Hosmer is out. One run is in. They're waving (#7 hitter). Hosmer to the plate. Too late, (#7 hitter) is in standing. What a nasty bad hop.

**Color Commentator** - (Announcer's name), that went from a tailor made 4-6-3, inning ending double play to a two RBI double in a hurry. That ball shot off of Profars' glove and headed to the wall behind first.

**ESPN Announcer** -None of the Padres seemed to know where the ball was. Hosmer never saw the ball go off of Profars' glove. By the time he got to it, (Dodgers' #7 hitter) was well on his way to the plate.

**Color Commentator** - (Padres #4 starter) went from a four-inning shut-out to down two with one out and a runner in scoring position. All on a bad hop ground ball.

**ESPN Announcer** -Here comes (Dodgers' pitcher) with a man on second and one out. (Dodgers' pitcher) squares to bunt. Strike one. Here's the oh-one. Bunted in the air. Hosmer's got it. Smith back to second – no throw.

**Color Commentator** - (Dodgers' pitcher) missed an opportunity to really help himself out and move the runner over with the top of the order coming up. Big missed opportunity.

**ESPN Announcer** -He's lucky that Smith stayed close to the bag on that pop-up. Hosmer was looking to double him up. Alright...here comes the top of the Dodgers' order with two runs in and a man on second with two outs. (Padres' pitcher) into the stretch. Ground ball...Tatis to his right...long throw...got 'em! What a play by Tatis! He made that play from the left field grass.

**Color Commentator** - Great play! Fernando Tatis Jr. He's been making plays like that all year long.

**ESPN Announcer** -That's it for the top half of the 4<sup>th</sup>. The Dodgers pick up two runs on two hits, no errors and a bizarre bad hop to take a 2-0 lead here in San Diego.



**Cut to ESPN Play-by-Play – Top of the 5<sup>th</sup> Inning**

**ESPN Announcer** -Here we go to start the 5<sup>th</sup>. The Padres got one back in the bottom of the 4<sup>th</sup> on a Hosmer solo home run and here come the Dodgers. (Padres' pitcher) will see the 2,3 and 4 hitters.

**Color Commentator** - (Announcer's name), The Dodgers tried to chase (Padres' pitcher) last inning, but Tingle stuck with his starter and it's paid off. Every out he gets from now on increases the likelihood that we're going to see Wyatt come in to finish this game off.

**ESPN Announcer** -Here we go. It's (Dodgers' #2 hitter) to lead off the fifth. Fastball...strike one.

**Color Commentator** - (Padres' pitcher) still looking sharp here in the 5<sup>th</sup>.

**ESPN Announcer** -Here's the oh-one. Slider. Got him swinging. (Padres' pitcher) got him swinging at a pitch off the plate. It' oh-two for (Dodgers' #2 hitter). Fastball. High for ball one. It's one and two with nobody out to start the 5<sup>th</sup>. Strike three called. Back door curveball got him looking.

**Color Commentator** - (Dodgers' hitter) didn't like that call at all. I think he's right. Looks like that ball broke around the plate.

**ESPN Announcer** -Like it or not...he's gone. That brings up (Dodgers' #3 hitter). Line shot! Machado's got it. What a play by Manny Machado. He went straight up and just did get that line drive!

**Color Commentator** - That ball had triple written all over it. Machado just went up and got himself an ice cream cone!

**ESPN Announcer** - There's two out here in the bottom of the fifth and here comes (Dodgers' clean-up hitter).

**Color Commentator** - Tatis and Machado have been spectacular! (Padres' pitcher) has been the beneficiary of two acrobatic plays.

**ESPN Announcer** - He sure has. And if not for that bad hop RBI double, he'd be shutting out the Dodgers. (Pause). (Dodgers' clean-up hitter) takes low...ball one.

**Color Commentator** - Good discipline on that slider. It was just out of the strike zone.

**ESPN Announcer** - Fastball...high for ball two. (Pitcher) falls behind, two and oh.

**Color Commentator** - This isn't a guy that you want sitting on a fastball.

**ESPN Announcer** - That's for sure. Here's the two-oh to (hitter). Fastball...fouled back for strike one.

**Color Commentator** - He got away with one, there. You've gotta know that (hitter) would love to get that one back.

**ESPN Announcer** - It's two and one in the 5<sup>th</sup> with two outs. Curveball...just outside. So...(pitcher) falls behind again. Here's the three-one. Fastball. HAMMERED foul!

**Color Commentator** - That ball was just crushed. Wow!!

**ESPN Announcer** -Full count with two outs here in the fifth. Fastball...fouled back. So...here we go again. Full count with two outs in the fifth. Here's the seventh pitch of the at-bat. Fastball, (long pause), ball four.

**Color Commentator** - (Laughing). (Pitcher) was half-way to the dugout by the time that ball was called. And...he's not happy with that call.

**ESPN Announcer** -That fastball sure did look good to me. I can only imagine it must have been called high.

**Color Commentator** - I don't know (Announcer's name). Maybe called high...but it looked good to me too. (Pitcher) is screaming at the umpire.

**ESPN Announcer** -Yeah...we have a full-on screaming match here. Here comes Tingle running out of the dugout. He's trying to get (pitcher) away from the umpire and he's not having much success.

**Color Commentator** - (Pitcher) doesn't want to calm down at all. Tingle had to come out.

**ESPN Announcer** -They're walking him out. They're walking him into the dugout. I think Tingle's pulling his pitcher.

**Color Commentator** - You're right! He's in the dugout.

**ESPN Announcer** -Here comes Tingle. He's calling for Wyatt! He's calling Wyatt out of the bullpen!

**Color Commentator** - Listen to that! That's the Trevor Hoffman song! (With the blaring sound of 'gong, gong' from 'Hells Bells' in the background).

**ESPN Announcer** -Here we go! The mood of this Petco Park crowd just turned on a dime. Take a look at this! (As the camera pans the crowd, standing and screaming and dancing to the sound of “Hells Bells”).

**Color Commentator** - (Announcer’s name), as you know, this song has a long history here in San Diego. Hall of Fame closer Trevor Hoffman was greeted by this song every time he came in from the bullpen. As an opponent, hearing this song was not good news.

**ESPN Announcer** -Not good news at all. If you heard this song, you were down at the end of the game and you were about to face one of the best closers in the history of baseball. Right now, for the Dodgers, it means you are going to see Jacob Wyatt. Also, not good news!

**Color Commentator** - Probably, not good news. Remember, Wyatt is coming in on very short rest and there’s a lot of baseball yet to be played here tonight.

**ESPN Announcer** -Padres’ pitching coach Larry Rothschild has been in the bullpen watching Wyatt warm up. He has to believe that Wyatt is going to be Wyatt. Nonetheless, the Dodgers have a lead here in the top of the 5<sup>th</sup> with one on and two out as Wyatt takes over for (Padres’ starter), who was terrific tonight. He’s kept the Padres in this game through four and two thirds.

**Color Commentator** - Wyatt’s warm up pitches are in the mid to high nineties on the gun, (Announcer’s name). Pretty much where he usually is to start a game.

**ESPN Announcer** -And that last pitch was 99! And here we go. Wyatt looks in for a sign. (Pause). Fastball...taken for strike one.

**Color Commentator** - 99 on the gun and right down the middle.

**ESPN Announcer** -Here's the oh one. Curveball...strike two swinging. That's just not fair (Color Commentator's name).

**Color Commentator** - (Laughing). Not fair at all. What do you look for now?

**ESPN Announcer** -I don't know. Here's the oh - two. Fastball...strike three! Three pitch strikeout to end the top of the fifth. Here come the Padres! (As the camera pans the crowd...standing and cheering).

**(Cut to Start the Bottom of the 8<sup>th</sup> Inning)**

**ESPN Announcer** -The Dodgers are clinging to a one run lead as we go into the bottom half of the eighth. Jordan leads off with Wyatt on deck, followed by the top of the Padres' order.

**Color Commentator** - This may be the Padres best chance to erase the Dodgers' lead and Jordan has had a good start to his major league career, hitting 289 on the season.

**ESPN Announcer** -(Dodgers' pitcher) starts out Jordan with a strike, on the outside corner. (Pause). Here's the oh - one...fastball, fouled off for strike two.

**Color Commentator** - (Dodgers' pitcher) not wasting any time jumping out in front of Jordan.

**ESPN Announcer** -Here's the oh two to Jordan...fastball, high for ball one.

**Color Commentator -** Good discipline by Jordan on that fastball. It's tough to lay off that high fastball with two strikes.

**ESPN Announcer -**One and two to Jordan to lead off the bottom of the eighth. Just outside for ball two. (Pause). The count evens at two and two. (Pause). Line drive...taken at second. One out!

**Color Commentator -** Jordan ripped that ball. Just right at (second baseman).

**ESPN Announcer -**Here comes Wyatt...and there goes Wyatt down to first. Dave Roberts wastes no time issuing an intentional walk to Wyatt, his second of the game.

**Color Commentator -** Yeah...it's a one run game and Dave Roberts isn't going to let Wyatt tie this game with one swing.

**ESPN Announcer -**One on and one out here in the bottom of the eighth and the Padres have the top of the order coming up. Wyatt off the bag at first as (Dodgers' pitcher) goes into the stretch. Throw to first. Wyatt is back standing.

**ESPN Color Commentator -** (Dodgers' pitcher) just keeping Wyatt honest there. Not much of a move to first.

**ESPN Announcer -**Here's the pitch...fastball, outside for ball one. This is an important at bat for the Padres here in the eighth. Tatis needs to find a way to move Wyatt into scoring position.

**ESPN Color Commentator -** He's a pretty good bunter. I wouldn't be surprised to see him lay one down here.

**ESPN Announcer** -Throw to first. Wyatt is back standing again. (Pause). Here's the one-oh. Throw to first. Not in time. (Padres' crowd boos).

**ESPN Commentator** - Good move there. Wyatt was just in ahead of the tag that time.

**ESPN Announcer** -Yeah...that was a different move. (Dodgers' pitcher) tried to pick him off there. Wyatt was just too quick. Here's the one-oh. There goes Wyatt! Too late! Wyatt's in at second!

**ESPN Commentator** - Huge play there. Wyatt just gave the Padres two chances to tie this game.

**ESPN Announcer** -Huge, indeed! (Dodgers' pitcher) is now behind two and oh and a base hit can tie the game. Here comes Roberts again. Looks like he's going to walk Tatis to set up the double play.

**ESPN Commentator** - He is! It's a bold move. He's trusting his ace to get the inning ending ground ball and Manny Machado is not an easy out.

**ESPN Announcer** -Not an easy out...but neither is Fernando Tatis Jr...and with a 2-0 count, the decision to walk Tatis was made a little bit easier. So here it is. Two on with one out in the eighth inning of a one run game with Manny Machado stepping to the plate to determine the fate of the National League West.

**ESPN Commentator** - It doesn't get any bigger than this, (ESPN Announcer's name).

**ESPN Announcer** -That's for sure. Here's the stretch...the pitch...fastball, outside corner for strike one.

**ESPN Commentator -** Great pitch and...(interrupted).

**ESPN Announcer -** There goes Wyatt! Delayed steal. The throw...he's safe! He's safe! Huge risk, but he's safe at third!

**ESPN Commentator -** Enormous risk and he just did make it.

**ESPN Announcer -** I cannot believe what Wyatt just pulled off. A delayed steal of third in the bottom half of the eighth. Absolutely unbelievable and extremely risky.

**ESPN Commentator -** It was all of that. I don't know if you saw it, (announcer's name), but Tingler had an interesting reaction in the Padres' dugout. He clearly didn't expect Wyatt to take off for third.

**ESPN Announcer -** Roberts is heading to the mound to talk to his pitcher. Here's a look at Tingler in the Padres' dugout just moments ago. (Pause...followed by laughter as video of Padres' Manager Jayce Tingler grabbing his head with both hands in disbelief as Wyatt steals third).

**ESPN Color Commentator -** Yeah...Tingler definitely didn't call for that stolen base.

**ESPN Announcer -** Clearly not, but he sure is happy about it now. That's what you get when you give a 17-year-old rookie the green light to steal bases. You get a delayed steal of third in the 8<sup>th</sup> inning of a "do-or-die", championship game.

**ESPN Commentator -** Tatis might have helped Wyatt steal that base. He faked a move to second just as Wyatt took off for third. He made (Dodgers' pitcher) flinch just a little before he turned to throw to third.



**ESPN Announcer** - So here we go. Roberts is sticking with his ace. (Dodgers' pitcher) has been nearly perfect tonight and the two Padres' baserunners are not his fault. Both were issued intentional walks by Roberts. Bottom of the eighth inning with runners at the corners and one out. Machado steps in with an oh - one count. Here's the pitch...ball one. One and one.

**ESPN Commentator** - Really good pitch again. That slider was just a little low. A good pitch when you're looking for a double play ball.

**ESPN Announcer** - The Dodgers' infield is in at the corners and back looking for a double play with a shift toward third for Machado. Here's the one-one to Machado. Pulled foul, down the line.

**ESPN Commentator** - Machado went down and got that fastball.

**ESPN Announcer** - He sure did. (Dodgers' pitcher) got him to swing at a ball down and in – off the plate. Tough to do much with that pitch, except pull it foul. Here's the one – two...outside...ball two.

**ESPN Commentator** - Another great pitch (announcer). Machado just did hold up on that fastball.

**ESPN Announcer** - Two and two to Manny Machado. (Pause). Fly ball to left! That ball's down the line! Wyatt tagging! (Dodgers' left fielder!) The throw...he's safe! Tatis down to second! Tie ballgame! It's a tie ballgame!!

**ESPN Commentator** - That stolen base sure is looking good right now. The Padres just manufactured a run without a base hit. (Dodgers' pitcher) has pitched a near perfect game, and he's still tied at two.

**ESPN Announcer** -He has been exceptional. (Dodgers' pitcher) has been exceptional. But, here comes Roberts and he's going to the bullpen.

**ESPN Commentator** - I don't know about you (announcer's name), but I still think walking Wyatt was the right move.

**ESPN Announcer** -I agree. I'm sure that there will be plenty of second guessing about those intentional walks...but I don't think most managers would have pitched to Wyatt in the bottom of the 8<sup>th</sup> in a one run game. And...when you walk Wyatt, walking Tatis after the stolen base was a no-brainer.

**ESPN Commentator** - Absolutely. And that delayed steal was something that nobody could have imagined. This whole half inning was created by the wild baserunning of Jacob Wyatt.

**ESPN Announcer** -We close the books on (Dodgers' pitcher). In 7 and two third innings, he gave up two runs on a scant three hits and three intentional walks and he's responsible for the baserunner at second. Like you said...he has been exceptional here in the eighth...and aside from the intentional walks, he's given up nothing.

**ESPN Commentator** - I feel bad for both of the starting pitchers here tonight. (Padres' pitcher) was bitten by a two run "bad bounce" ground ball that should have been an inning ending double play and (Dodgers' pitcher) was chased by two intentional walks and a delayed steal. They both pitched terrific games and neither of them can get the win.

**ESPN Announcer** -You're right. They both pitched well enough to win and neither will. This game is now in the hands of Dodgers' closer Henley Geronimo Jansen. Jensen has been reliable and solid for the Dodgers all season.

**ESPN Commentator** - Yes, he has. Jensen has been closing out games all year and now he's in the ballgame of a lifetime. Tie game with two outs and a runner at second.

**ESPN Announcer** -All that in the last game of the year for all the marbles. Here comes Trent Grisham as Jensen has completed his warm-up and he's ready to go. Fastball...taken for strike one.

**ESPN Commentator** - Grisham was taking all the way on that pitch.

**ESPN Announcer** -Here's the oh-one. Fastball...outside for ball one. (Pause). Here's the one-one. Ground ball...it gets through! Here comes Tatis! No throw! The Padres lead 3 – 2! I don't believe it! The Padres take the lead!

**ESPN Commentator** - Unbelievable series of events! Two intentional walks...a stolen base...a sacrifice fly ball and a seeing-eye ground ball and the Padres score twice! Ladies and gentlemen...this is Padres baseball. They've been winning like this for months.

**ESPN Announcer** -Yes they have. The Dodgers have played nearly perfect baseball and they still find themselves trailing late. If you're Dave Roberts, you've got to wonder what you have to do to beat this Padres team. Right now...you've got to score on Jacob Wyatt in the ninth to win this game. Not an easy task.

### **Cut to the Top of the Ninth Inning**

**ESPN Announcer** -The Padres are just three outs away from the National League West pennant. If you're Jayce Tingler, you've gotta feel pretty good about where you are. Three outs away from the National League West pennant with Jacob Wyatt on the mound and he's looking as good as ever.

**ESPN Commentator** - Yes, he is. Coming into the night, there were questions about how sharp Wyatt would be, given that he has thrown 220 pitches in the four days going into the night. You're right though...so far, Wyatt has been as sharp tonight as ever. His velocity is good...his movement is good, and his location is good.

**ESPN Announcer** - Wyatt will be likely to see some pinch hitters here in the ninth. The Dodgers have the 7,8 and 9 slots coming up. Other than a two out single in the seventh, Wyatt has retired the Dodgers in order since coming in to get the final out of the fifth inning. Here comes (Dodgers' #7 hitter). (Pause). Wyatt starts (Dodgers' #7 hitter) with a change up for a swinging strike one.

**ESPN Commentator** - That's just a nasty change up and (Dodgers' #7 hitter) was clearly looking to jump on a fastball there.

**ESPN Announcer** - Here's the oh-one. High fly ball to left center! This one's deep! Grisham on the track...at the wall...he's got it! One out here in the ninth!

**ESPN Commentator** - Man was that close! (Dodgers' #7 hitter) was a few feet away from tying this game!

**ESPN Announcer** - That ball seemed to really just hang up there. I thought it was out when he hit it.

**ESPN Commentator** - So did I. That heavy ocean air here in San Diego held that ball up just enough to keep it in play.

**ESPN Announcer** - What a dramatic start to the top of the ninth inning! (Dodgers' #7 hitter) had both benches and everybody in this ballpark standing to watch as that towering fly ball came up just short of tying this game. Here comes (Dodgers'

pinch hitter) with one out in the ninth. (Pause). Wyatt has the sign. The pitch...fastball...strike one!

**ESPN Commentator -** Wyatt seems completely unfazed by that last at bat. He just came right at (Dodgers' pinch hitter) with a fastball there.

**ESPN Announcer -**Here's the oh - one. Curveball...strike two! Hard breaking curveball really fooled (Dodgers' pinch hitter). Here's the oh - two...fastball...ball one. A little bit high.

**ESPN Commentator -** That's a tough pitch to lay off of oh - two.

**ESPN Announcer -**Here's the one - two...fastball...strike three swinging!

**ESPN Commentator -** Cutter...just off the plate. He just blew that one by him.

**ESPN Announcer -**There's two out in the ninth. The Dodgers are down to their last out. Here comes (Dodgers' pinch hitter) with the entire season on the line. Wyatt has the sign...the pitch...curveball...strike one!

**ESPN Commentator -** That's just unfair. Another nasty curveball to start (Dodgers' pinch hitter) out!

**ESPN Announcer -**Here's the oh - one...curveball...fouled off for strike two!

**ESPN Commentator -** (Dodgers' pinch hitter) just did get a piece of that curveball.

**ESPN Announcer** -Oh and two with two outs here in the ninth. Wyatt looking for a sign...the pitch...strike three swinging! The Padres win again! The Padres win the pennant!

**(Flash scenes of Wyatt and the Padres celebrating their victory and scenes of the crowd at Petco Park celebrating)**

**(Cut to a series of baseball clips, newspaper articles and magazine covers showing the Padres winning the National League Championship)**

**(Cut to Chris Berman interviewing Jacob Wyatt and Lou Piniella at the San Diego trailer park outside their motor homes)**

**Chris Berman -** Good morning, and welcome to beautiful San Diego, California. It's a cool autumn day here in San Diego, but things are about to heat up as the New York Yankees will face off with the San Diego Padres tonight in game one of what promises to be an exciting World Series. I'm here this morning with Jacob Wyatt and Lou Piniella to talk about the upcoming series. Good morning, gentlemen.

**Jacob and Lou -** Good morning.

**Chris Berman -** Jacob...just a few short months ago, you were at home in Cloister, New Zealand, wondering what your future might look like as you watched the Major League Baseball draft. You're just 17 years old, and your life has very suddenly and very dramatically changed over the past few months. Here you are...married and about to start game one of the World Series for a team that

has not hosted a World Series game during your lifetime. Do you think much about how much your life has changed in the past few months?

**Jacob Wyatt -** I do think about it. My family, and especially Mrs. Piniella make sure that I remember who I am and where I came from. It's easy to get caught up in all of the things that come along with being a Major League Baseball player. The people that love me make sure that I remember that life is much more than a baseball game. They remind me that I am responsible first to God and then family. I can lose everything else...but I cannot lose the things and the people that matter the most to me. I don't think I would be able to handle all of the changes in my life without the people that love me.

**Chris Berman -** How about you, Lou? Your life has changed a little bit over the past few months too!

**Lou Piniella -** (Laughing). Yeah...a little bit. I never imagined that I'd be in this trailer park in San Diego. I'm glad I am here, though. I'm having more fun than I've had in some time.

**Chris Berman -** For most of us, this Padres run has come as quite a surprise. You and Anita have apparently been expecting this for some time.

**Lou Piniella -** We really have. There's just something about this Padres team that is remarkable. They had a terrific year last year. They made some aggressive moves in the off season. Going into this year, they would have been favored to win the NL West...and maybe to win everything, except for the World Series Champs just up the road in L.A. But Yeah...we've known for awhile that this team was destined for this moment.

**Chris Berman -** Jacob...I understand that you're the starting pitcher tonight. You ready for the World Series?

- Jacob Wyatt -** Yes sir. When it's time for the first pitch...I'll be at 100% and ready to go. I'm rested and anxious to get this thing going.
- Chris Berman -** I heard a rumor that the Padres are considering having you start four games in this series. Is it true?
- Jacob Wyatt -** I hope so. We've been saying for some time now that if I'm healthy...there's no reason that I can't start games one, three, five and seven in a seven-game series. With the way travel days are arranged, I would have four days off between starts. We swept our last series, so we've had some extra time off. I have had five days off since I pitched right-handed, so I'm very well rested going into the series. I can easily go games one and five right-handed and games three and seven left-handed. Right now, I'm just staying focused on game one.
- Chris Berman -** Lou...what do you think about Jacob starting four games?
- Lou Piniella -** I hate to say it, but I have to agree with Jacob. I'm not a big fan of allowing him to risk injury, but if anybody can ever start four games in a seven-game series, it's Jacob. I want to see how he feels before any game that he's starting, but there's no point in holding anything back at this point. Whether you win or not, it's all over after seven games and there's lots of time off for healing after that.
- Chris Berman -** Wow! I'm a little bit surprised with your reply, Lou.
- Lou Piniella -** (Laughing). Yeah...me too!
- Chris Berman -** Jacob...you've been in a little mini-slump over the past couple of games and the Yankees have a really good starting rotation. What are you doing to get your swing back?



**Jacob Wyatt -** Yeah...I haven't been seeing the ball well, and when I have hit the ball it's been right at somebody. I had a pretty good day yesterday. Mr. Tingler was able to line up some really good pitchers to throw to me yesterday. He got a couple of guys from San Diego State that can really pitch! I started to see the ball again after awhile and I'm feeling good going into tonight. We're all hoping that I'm fixed and that we can start driving the ball again.

**Chris Berman -** Good luck, gentlemen! I'll be hanging around and I'm looking forward to continuing this conversation as the series progresses.

**Jacob Wyatt -** Thanks, Mr. Berman.

**Lou Piniella -** Thanks.

**(Cut to Game 1, top of the 5<sup>th</sup> inning play-by-play)**

**Announcer -** Welcome back to Petco Park. We have quite a pitching duel here tonight. The Padres have had just two baserunners tonight, one on an intentional walk with two outs in the first following a two out single. The Yankees have had just one baserunner on a two out infield single. Both pitchers have been terrific and efficient, combining for a total of 13 strike outs. Wyatt has completed his warm-up pitches and the Yankees will be sending up the 5, 6 and 7 hitters to start out the fifth inning.

Wyatt has the sign...the pitch...fastball for strike one. (Pause). Here's the oh - one...fastball...strike two.

**Commentator -** That's that cutter...just caught the outside corner there.

**Announcer -** Here's the oh - two...fastball...strike three swinging. One out here in the top of the 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Commentator -** Got him swinging at a ball off the plate.

**Announcer -** Okay...one down and here comes (#6 hitter). (#6 hitter) has the only hit in the game tonight...a two out infield single in the second inning. Here's the pitch...curveball...strike one.

**Commentator -** That's a tough pitch to hit when you're looking for a first pitch, fastball.

**Announcer -** (Laughing). It is indeed. Here's the oh - one...fastball...popped into left...Tatis going out...it's in...big turn...he's going for two...he's in! One out double for (#6 hitter) here in the 5<sup>th</sup> as the Yankees have their first runner in scoring position.

**Commentator -** Broken bat dink double for (#6 hitter). He just fought that pitch off and fisted it into left. That was a nice piece of hitting.

**Announcer -** Alright...we have one out here in the fifth and the Yankees have a runner at second and (#7 hitter) stepping in. This is only the second time Wyatt has had to work from the stretch tonight. (#7 hitter) struck out in his first at bat. Fastball...strike one.

**Commentator-** That 4-seamer up in the zone is tough to lay off of and very tough to hit.

**Announcer -** Especially when it's coming in over 100 miles-an-hour. That one was 101! Here's the oh - one...Curveball...strike two called! Backdoor curveball has him looking. (Pause). Here's the oh - two...Fastball...ball one high.

- Commentator -** After the backdoor curveball, that fastball just froze (#7 hitter).
- Announcer -** Here's the one - two. (Screaming). There goes (#6 hitter)! Ground ball...it's through. Here comes (#6 hitter). There it is! Yankees score...it's one nothing Yankees!
- Commentator -** Unbelievable. I can't believe that the Yankees started (#6 hitter). He didn't get a great jump, but he scored easily on that ground ball single.
- Announcer -** Incredibly bold and risky move puts the Yankees up a run here in the fifth. The high risk move by Aaron Boone pays off as the Yankees strike first in game one.

**Fade out to Start the Bottom of the 9<sup>th</sup> Inning**

- Announcer -** Last chance for the Padres. (Yankees' pitcher) has held the Padres scoreless, giving up just 3 hits and 2 walks. Both of the walks were intentionally issued to Jacob Wyatt and both came with two outs in the inning. (Yankees' pitcher) did pitch to Wyatt with one out in the 4<sup>th</sup> inning and Wyatt hit a towering drive to dead center that was caught at the center field wall.
- Commentator -** With Wyatt on deck to start the inning, the lead off at bat is going to be really important for the Padres, and (#3 hitter) has one of the three hits tonight.
- Announcer -** Indeed! If (#3 hitter) can find a way to get on base, (Yankees' pitcher) will have to pitch to Wyatt with a man on and nobody out. Here we go! (Yankees' pitcher) looks in for a sign. The pitch...ball one, just outside.

**Commentator -** (#3 hitter) showed some discipline there. Tough pitch to lay off of to start the inning.

**Announcer -** Here's the one - oh...fastball on the corner for strike one.

**Commentator -** Same pitch and almost the same location. He just caught the corner there.

**Announcer -** The count is even at one and one. Strike two swinging. Nasty breaking ball (Commentator's name)!

**Commentator -** Nasty, indeed! (Yankees' pitcher) has been using that curveball to take out Padres' hitters all night.

**Announcer -** He sure has. Here's the one two pitch...popped into right...easy play for (Yankees' right fielder).

**Commentator -** Got him swinging at a fastball off the plate (Announcer's name).

**Announcer -** So here we are...bottom of the ninth. Yankees lead one to nothing as (Yankees' pitcher) has been nothing short of stellar tonight and he has a chance to be the first pitcher to ever beat Jacob Wyatt.

**Commentator -** And who's stepping up to the plate? Jacob Wyatt!

**Announcer -** Aaron Boone is going out to have a talk with (Yankees' pitcher). Gee (Commentator's name), what do you think they're talking about?

- Commentator -** (Laughing). Yeah...it's a tough call here. What do you think? Do you pitch to Wyatt in the bottom of the ninth of a one run game?
- Announcer -** I don't know, (Commentator's name). I don't think you want to pitch to him, but you also don't want to put the tying run on base with just one out. Tough call. Let's see what Boone decides.
- Commentator -** He's going to pitch to him!
- Announcer -** He sure is! Oh my...listen to this crowd! This place is going crazy!
- Commentator -** This could be the ballgame! (Yankees' pitcher) vs. Jacob Wyatt to decide game one of the World Series.
- Announcer -** It's power against power with one out in the bottom of the ninth! Here's the pitch...fastball...check swing, but he held up. Ball one on a high fastball that just missed.
- Commentator -** Boone is screaming at the third base umpire.
- Announcer -** I think he's right...it looks like Wyatt went around on that fastball. Here's the one - oh...foul ball...strike one! Wyatt couldn't hold up on that curveball.
- Commentator -** Another perfect breaking ball from (Yankees' pitcher). Wyatt just did get a piece of that.
- Announcer -** (Yankees' pitcher) ahead one and two. Here's the pitch...inside...ball two!

**Commentator -** He doubled up on that curveball and Wyatt was able to lay off this time.

**Announcer -** The count is even at two and two. (Yankees' pitcher) into the wind-up...ball three. Fastball outside to bring up a full count.

**Commentator -** Of course it's a full count! What a game (Announcer name)!

**Announcer -** Here we go! Full count to Wyatt with one out in the bottom of the ninth. (Yankees' pitcher) winds up...LINE DRIVE...THIRD BASE LINE...FOUL BALL! Just foul by inches!

**Commentator -** Wyatt just missed extra bases by inches and he was flying around the bases.

**Announcer -** Jayce Tingler has this on hold while he looks at the replay to make sure that ball was foul. Oh my...that was close! What do you think, (Commentator's name)?

**Commentator -** I don't know, (Announcer name). That ball sure did look like it was in when it was hit, but it was slicing, and I think it did go foul.

**Announcer -** Oh yeah...it's foul by about 3 inches. Good call. I don't know how you can tell where that ball landed in real time. We had to slow that down and go frame by frame to see where that ball landed. And...if that ball was fair, Wyatt had a real chance to stretch it into a triple the way he was running.

**Commentator -** He was definitely thinking triple from the get go. He came out of the box like a man possessed. And...with (Yankees' left fielder) playing him toward the gap in left center, I'd say that he was certainly looking to go three bags and I think he had a really good shot at it.

- Announcer -** Oh well...we'll never know now. It's back to full count with one out in the ninth inning of a remarkable pitchers' duel here in Game one. (Yankees' pitcher) has been staying sharp throwing while we've waited on the call. He's pitching to Wyatt with confidence and he doesn't look to be the slightest bit afraid to come right at him...even after that shot down the left field line.
- Wyatt is stepping back in and here's the pitch. Fastball...just high for ball four and there goes Wyatt down to first base!
- Commentator -** It's the third time today that Wyatt has been on base, (Announcer's name).
- Announcer -** It is, (Commentator's name), but it's the first time with less than two outs. If you're Jayce Tingler, do you let him run?
- Commentator -** I do. Down a run in the ninth and with the way (Yankees' pitcher) is throwing...yes...I let him run.
- Announcer -** I agree! Well...here we go. (Padres' #5 hitter) steps in with one out and Wyatt on first. (Yankees' pitcher) into the stretch. Throw to first! Wyatt back safe at first (as the crowd boos).
- No secrets here. The Yankees know that Wyatt is just itching to run.
- Commentator -** Knowing it and stopping it are two very different things.
- Announcer -** Indeed! Okay...here we go. Wyatt takes a lead...throw to first. Wyatt back standing.
- Commentator -** (Over loud boos). Not much of a throw there, (Announcer's name).

**Announcer -** Nope. Just trying to get an idea about what Wyatt's doing (as the boos continue).

Here we go again...there goes Wyatt! Line drive! Diving catch at second! Double play! Yankees win! The Yankees win game one of the World Series! The New York Yankees have just beaten Jacob Wyatt and the San Diego Padres in game one of the World Series!

**Commentator -** What a game by (Yankees' pitcher). Complete game shut-out of the San Diego Padres in San Diego to put the Yankees up a game to start the series. I don't know about you (Announcer's name), but I didn't think that there was any chance that the Yankees would come into San Diego and beat a well rested Jacob Wyatt in game one.

**Announcer -** You're right. I don't know anybody that expected this. I don't know of a single knowledgeable baseball guy that thought that the Padres could be beaten with Wyatt going tonight. But...here we are...it's a very different Series now!

**Cut to Chris Berman from Petco Park, San Diego**

**Chris Berman -** Welcome to the World Series post-game show from San Diego, California where we just saw the New York Yankees take game one over the Padres. If you were looking for an offensive performance, you had to be a little disappointed. Only one run was scored in this classic pitchers' duel between (Yankees' pitcher) and Jacob Wyatt. Wyatt was outstanding tonight, giving up just one run on 4 hits. (Yankees' pitcher) was better, turning in a 3-hit shutout.

(To the analysts). If you like a great pitchers' duel, this was one for the ages. I can't remember a World Series game with such dominating pitching performances.



- Analyst one -** I can't either, Chris. Major League baseball has been working to speed up the games. This was a quick one. I guess the answer is better pitching and this may be the best World Series pitching ever.
- Analyst two -** Great pitching and very fast, but terribly boring! A grand total of just 64 at bats and 7 hits. A whopping three runners made it to scoring position and only one scored.
- Chris Berman -** Yeah...you have to be a baseball purist to appreciate a game like this, but I am, and I was overwhelmed by the dominant performances of both pitchers. From the first pitch to the last, they were in complete control of this game, except for a broken bat double followed by a ground ball single to score the only run of the game.
- Analyst two -** Boring!
- Analyst one -** If you were looking for a high scoring game with lots of home runs, then yeah...you're bored. I was not the least bit bored. I love good pitching battles, and this is the best pitching battle I can remember. I don't know how you can be bored watching two of the best go head-to-head like these two did tonight.
- Chris Berman -** I'm with you, (analyst one). I was on the edge of my seat for every at bat. These are two of the best run scoring teams in baseball with some really good bats on both sides and they just got run over. I kept waiting for somebody to get a pitch to hit, but it just didn't happen.
- Analyst one -** Exactly. And there's nothing boring about great hitters facing great pitchers. That's exciting baseball.
- Analyst two -** Boring! You're putting me to sleep.

**Chris Berman -** (Laughing). Alright...if you can't get excited about tomorrow night's second game of the World Series as the San Diego Padres host the New York Yankees who have taken game one, then you just can't get excited.

### **Cut to Locker Room Post-Game Interviews**

**Reporter -** (To Jacob). You pitched a great game tonight. It has to be tough to pitch so well and still lose.

**Jacob -** (Clearly not happy). First, let me congratulate the Yankees on a big win. They are an outstanding team, and they were nearly perfect tonight. I especially want to congratulate (Yankees' pitcher) on an absolutely dominating performance tonight. I just plain and simply got beat tonight and I'm sorry for our fans and my teammates. They counted on me to get the job done and I failed. I failed on the mound and I failed at the plate...and I'm sorry that I failed them. I'd like to say that I won't let it happen again, but this is baseball, and we all know that it will happen again. But...I'm going to do everything I can to make sure that it doesn't happen again in The Series. Because I failed tonight, we have to win 4 out of 6 games and we will. This Padres team knows how to fight our way from behind. My teammates are talented and they're tough and they just don't know how to quit. I put them in a hole tonight, but they've been in a hole all year and they know how to battle their way to the top. That's all I really have to say tonight. We're down, but I assure you, we're not out. I'll see you all tomorrow night. (Clearly angry, Jacob gets up and leaves while reporters scream out questions to him. He ignores them and just walks out).

### **Cut to Chris Berman and Game Two Pregame Show from Petco Park**

**Chris Berman -** Good evening and welcome to beautiful downtown San Diego as the San Diego Padres prepare to take on the New York Yankees in game two of the World Series.

Last night, we witnessed an amazing pitching duel between (Yankees' game one pitcher) and Jacob Wyatt. For the first time ever, Jacob Wyatt was beaten by a better pitching performance by (Yankees' game one pitcher). Last night, we witnessed an angry and frustrated Jacob Wyatt apologize to his teammates and Padres fans for "failing" them as he assumed blame for the Padres loss in game one.

(To the analysts). That was a very different Jacob Wyatt last night.

**Analyst one -** It sure was, Chris. We've seen Wyatt upset before, but last night he seemed to be really angry with himself. It's going to be interesting to see whether or not he can recover from his first loss next time he takes the mound.

**Analyst two -** I think he was just trying to take the pressure off of his teammates for their failure to produce any offense last night by accepting blame for their loss. Any time a starting pitcher goes nine innings and gives up just one run on four hits, he's had a terrific game and he should be able to count on his teammates to produce enough offense to get him the win. The real failure last night was the Padres' bats. They just didn't get the job done.

**Chris Berman -** I'm certain that you're right, but I can tell you that Jacob really does feel like he let his team down. I was invited to have breakfast with the Wyatt family this morning. Jacob said something about letting people down and Piniella smacked him pretty good. Piniella cut him off and said, "that's enough of that shit...the question is what are you going to do about it". You've gotta love Piniella. He is a no B.S. guy that just cuts straight to the point. Jacob just broke out laughing.

Piniella snapped, "Yesterday is over and done with. Forget about yesterday, damn it. Get your head right and start thinking about today. Today is the only thing that matters and if your head's not right, you're unable to do what you need to do today, so get your damned head right". Jacob just smiled and said, "yes sir". I'm telling you that ended all discussion about game one. From that moment on, there was no more talk of losing or failure. Most of

breakfast was talk about all of the good things in life and about what an amazing year this has been for the Wyatt clan. Jacob will be riding the bench tonight, but you can bet that he'll be ready to grab a bat and step up to the plate.

**Analyst two -** How do you get an invite to that breakfast?

**Chris Berman -** (Laughing). Stupid luck! If you ever have a chance to spend time with any of the Wyatt family, you take it and you'll soon find out just how stupid lucky you are. It was one of the luckiest events of my life and I'm not about to take advantage of their kindness.

So, what do you think about tonight's game? Any predictions?

**Analyst one -** After last night, I think you're going to see some aggressive at bats tonight. Both teams were frustrated by exceptional pitching and I'm betting that they're going to come out swinging tonight. I expect some fireworks tonight.

**Analyst two -** I hope you're right and I think you are. Yeah...I too think there's going to be some fireworks here in San Diego tonight.

**Chris Berman -** Well...there you have it, folks. Get ready for a wild night.

### **Cut to the Bottom of the Fifth Inning**

**Announcer -** And here comes Wyatt with the bases loaded and one out. It's a perfect opportunity for Jayce Tingler. With the bases loaded in a 3-3 tie, Tingler can confidently assume that the Yankees won't walk Wyatt to force in the go-ahead run.

- Commentator -** Aaron Boone is heading to the mound. He's making a change. He's going to turn Wyatt around and make him bat from the right side.
- Announcer -** I don't know that he's making the change to turn Wyatt around. Wyatt's average and power numbers are only slightly better as a left-handed batter. I think he just wants a fresh arm.
- Commentator -** I'm not saying he's doing it just to turn Wyatt around.
- Announcer -** But you're right...he is turning him around. Listen to this crowd, (Commentator's name).
- Commentator -** (Laughing). Yeah...they just cranked up the volume on "Bad to the Bone", and Petco Park is just eating it up. Are you at all surprised that Tingle is using Wyatt this early?
- Announcer -** Maybe a little bit, but how often do you get a chance to use your best pinch hitter with the bases loaded? When would be a better time?
- Commentator -** Absolutely true! When you've only scored 3 runs in the last 13 plus innings, you've got to take your best shot whenever you have it.
- Announcer -** And here we go! The game is tied at three with bases loaded and one out in the bottom of the fifth. (Yankees' pitcher) is ready and here's the pitch. Fastball...high for ball one!
- Commentator -** Maybe just a little bit extra on that fastball, (Announcer's name).
- Announcer -** I'd say. That was an adrenaline induced fastball. (Both laughing).

Here's the 1 - 0. Fastball...outside for ball two!

**Commentator -** You've got to be careful here, (Announcer name). You don't want to go to 3 - 0, but you don't want to risk teeing one up for Wyatt to drive into the bleachers.

**Announcer -** Here's the 2 - 0. Strike one swinging!

**Commentator -** What a pitch! He threw a 2-0 curveball, inside, that got Wyatt swinging!

**Announcer -** I think he surprised everybody with that curveball...including Wyatt. Here's the 2 - 1...CRUSHED! It's into the gap in left center! One run's in! Two runs in! Throw to second...not in time! Wyatt just made it to second as (Padres' runner) holds at third. It's 5 - 3 Padres on a two RBI double by Wyatt!

**Commentator -** What a play off the wall by (Yankees' center fielder). He didn't hesitate to gun that ball into second...and he almost got Wyatt.

**Announcer -** He sure did. That ball got out to the wall in a hurry, and he played it perfectly, but came up just short.

### **Cut to the Top of the Ninth Inning**

**Announcer -** Last chance for the Yankees here in the ninth. It's 7 - 5 Padres with (Yankees' runner) on first following a two out walk and (Yankees' batter) steps up representing the tying run. (Padres' closer) looking in. Here's the pitch...throw to first...not in time.

**Commentator -** Just keeping him honest there, (Announcer's name).

**Announcer -** True, indeed. 7 - 5 Padres with two out in the ninth and a man on first. (Padres closer) into the stretch...fastball, strike one.

**Commentator -** He just caught the outside corner with that fastball.

**Announcer -** No balls and one strike to (Yankees' batter). (Padres' closer) into the stretch...ground ball, up the middle! Tatis' got it...flip to second...it's over. The Padres win 7 - 5. The San Diego Padres tie the series at a game apiece.

**Cut to Breakfast in New York with the extended Wyatt Family, Chris Berman and Harris Faulkner**

**Anita -** (To Harris Faulkner, as she's walking in). I'm so glad you made it, Harris.

**Harris -** Hi guys...thank you Anita. (As they embrace). When Shelly called me and said that she had tickets for my family, I knew I had to take the day off. It's so good to see you!

**Chris Berman -** (To Harris). How you doin' stranger?

**Harris -** (As they hug). Where's the family?

**Lou -** They just called and said they're on their way. I think they had to wait for Jacob to finish shaving his legs.

**Harris -** Jacob shaves his legs?

**Lou -** Oh yeah...he's meticulous about his grooming.

**Anita -** Cut it out, jerk! He doesn't need that kind of a distraction in the middle of the World Series.

**Lou -** You kidding? It's the perfect time for a leg shaving story. Get his mind off of the game a little. You think you could let that slip, Harris?

**Harris -** I think Chris is the man for this job.

**Chris Berman -** Yeah...I could find a way to get that into the pre-game.

**Lou -** Oh God! You have to! I promise that I'll give you cover. It'll be 100% all on me.

**Chris Berman -** Okay, Lou. But what you probably don't know is more than half of the guys in that locker room do shave their legs...and everything else, for that matter. These kids are not the guys that you played with.

**Lou -** Ain't that the truth!

**Jacob -** Ain't what the truth? (As he's walking in).

**Jacob -** (After a long session of hugs and kisses and greetings). Ain't what the truth, boss?



**Lou -** Chris was just telling me that today's player is not like the guys I played with.

**Jacob -** After some of the stories that you told me after your second Jack Daniels, I'm not sure that's a bad thing.

**Chris Berman -** (Laughing). Hey...I want to hear some of those stories!

**Anita -** Just pour him some Jack Daniels and you won't be able to shut him up!

**Chris Berman -** (To Lou). That's a date, my friend.

**Lou -** You're on!

**Cut to the Top of the Seventh Inning in Yankee Stadium**

**Announcer -** Welcome back as we start the seventh inning. The Padres are looking to expand on their 5 - 1 lead as they send up the top of the order against Yankee's reliever (Yankees' reliever name). The Padres took the lead in the third on a three-run blast from the bat of Jacob Wyatt and the Yankees only run came in the fifth on a solo home run by (Yankees' hitter name). The Padres have left 4 runners stranded, including two in scoring position.

**Commentator -** It's really been all Padres so far tonight (Announcer's name). Aside from the home run in the fifth, the Yankees have only had one baserunner and he was stranded at first to end the 6<sup>th</sup>.

- Announcer -** It really has been a typical Wyatt ballgame. Very few hits...very few runs and a lot of quick outs. On the other hand, the Padres have been aggressively attacking the ball, resulting in five runs.
- Commentator -** For the Yankees, I think they've been aggressively attacking the ball as well, but, except for (Yankees' hitter name) in the fifth, they have not been able to get solid contact, as Wyatt has been his normal self on the mound.
- Announcer -** I believe that you're right. They're swinging the bat...they're just not making solid contact.
- Well...here we go. First pitch to the Padres' leadoff hitter...ball one, outside.
- Commentator -** The Padres have done a lot of first pitch hitting tonight. Probably smart to start off away from the plate.
- Announcer -** Here's the 1 - 0...strike one swinging.
- Commentator -** Nice 1 - 0 breaking ball there (Announcer's name).
- Announcer -** Very nice. Here's the 1 - 1...fly ball...left center and fairly deep. (Yankees' left fielder) has it on the run.
- Commentator -** That ball was well hit...made (Yankees' left fielder) hustle over to get that out.
- Announcer -** One out here in the seventh, and here comes Tatis. Tatis is two for three with a walk and he's scored twice.
- Commentator -** He's one of those guys that has really been attacking the ball tonight.

- Announcer -** Very aggressive tonight, and it's paid big dividends. Here's the offering to Tatis...line drive! Oh my...nice catch at second to get Tatis!
- Commentator -** That ball was ripped. (Yankees' second baseman) ranging to his left to take away a hit.
- Announcer -** Here comes Wyatt with two out in the seventh. Wyatt's two for three with a three-run home run, a leadoff single and a walk tonight. Tingle changed the lineup tonight to give Wyatt some extra protection by batting him third and moving Machado into the clean-up spot.
- Commentator -** That move really has paid off tonight. Tingle changes the lineup quite a bit. Wyatt's been in the leadoff spot, third spot and clean-up spot throughout the year.
- Announcer -** Here's the pitch...ball one high.
- Commentator -** High fastball that Wyatt was able to hold up on.
- Announcer -** 1 - 0 to Wyatt...RIPPED! Forget about that ball...it's out of here.
- Commentator -** Wyatt just destroyed that curveball...line shot midway up the right-center field bleachers.
- Announcer -** The Padres get yet another insurance run here in the seventh and the lead is now 6 - 1.

**Cut to the Bottom of the Ninth**

- Announcer -** The Yankees are down to their last out here in game three of the World Series. It's been all Padres here tonight (Commentator's name).
- Commentator -** Yeah...the Padres have completely shut down the Yankees offense tonight. Great pitching and some amazing plays in the field behind Wyatt.
- Announcer -** Here comes (Yankees' hitter). Fastball...Strike one...taken on the outside corner.
- Commentator -** Back doored him there (Announcer's name).
- Announcer -** Here's the 0 - 1...line drive! Knocked down by Machado...throw to first...got him! Great play by Manny Machado at third. That's it...the Padres take game three for a 2 - 1 series lead over the Yankees!

**Cut to a series of baseball clips, newspaper articles and magazine covers showing Games 4, 5 and 6 of the World Series**

**Cut to Chris Berman with Jacob and Lou at the Trailer Park in San Diego**

- Chris Berman -** Good morning, and welcome to a beautiful fall morning in San Diego. I'm with Jacob Wyatt and Lou Piniella this morning to talk about game 7 of the World Series.

Good morning, gentlemen.

**Jacob and Lou -** Good morning.

**Chris Berman -** Let's talk a little bit about how we got here. Game 7 of the World Series, Lou!

**Lou -** Game 7, indeed, Chris. It's a dream come true for anybody that loves baseball. It's the ultimate challenge for true competitors. It just doesn't get any better than this.

**Chris Berman -** How are you this morning, Jacob?

**Jacob -** I'm very excited, but also very relaxed, Mr. Berman. You said it...Game 7 of the World Series! It seems like just yesterday that I dreamed of being where we are right now, but even my wildest dreams were not this good.

**Chris Berman -** I'll bet that's true. Tell me a bit about how you got here. How is it that this World Series wound up at a game 7?

**Jacob -** So much happened! I think that you can sum it up with two tough, competitive teams played six games without letting up. Lots of heart mixed with great talent, great management and a stubborn refusal to quit.

**Chris Berman -** Well said, young man! How about you, Lou? You have anything to add to that?

**Lou -** Nope!

**Chris Berman -** (Laughing). Congratulations, Jacob. You were able to leave Lou Piniella speechless.

**Jacob -** (Sarcastically). Don't bet on it.

**Lou -** Shut up, kid!

**Jacob -** See! (Everyone laughing).

**Chris Berman -** Alright then...Jacob...game 7 is a rematch of the pitching duel from game 1. How will you approach this game differently?

**Jacob -** Yeah...thanks so much for reminding me about game one! By the way...there's your answer to how we got to game 7. I was beaten like a rented mule in game 1 and that's how we got to game 7. I lost the game on the mound and I lost the game at the plate. You know...I was really happy going with the whole toughness, talent and heart schtick...and then you had to remind me about game one. Thanks a lot! You're a real friend!

**Chris Berman -** (Everyone laughing). Anything I can do to help you prepare for tonight, Jacob! I'm just trying to help you prepare.

**Lou -** (Everyone still laughing). (Sarcastically). I told you that you couldn't trust this guy. You see...right before game 7 and he's trying to get into your head. Yankees fans, man! They'll do anything to win.

**Jacob -** (To Lou). Can I hit him?

**Lou -** Hell yeah...hit him! (Everybody laughing).

**Chris Berman -** (As Jacob gets up and stands over Chris Berman). Alright...sit down Wyatt.

**Jacob -** (To Lou). Now he's giving me orders! (Everybody laughing still). (To Chris Berman). Yeah...a rematch of game one. Of course, a rematch of game one. If he pitches like he did in game one, I'm going to have to just outlast him and keep them off of the board. I'm rested, Mr. Berman. It's been over a week since I pitched left-handed. There's no pitch count tonight and there's no limit about how far I'll go, if needed...and we have the best bullpen in baseball. I have great faith in our bats against anybody. You can't keep these guys from scoring tonight. They're fired up and they're going to be on their game. I've just gotta keep the Yankees off the board until our bats can do their thing. I know that they're going to be fired up too and I'm not saying that it's going to be easy because it's not going to be easy. Yes sir...it's game 7 and we're going to win this one.

**Chris Berman -** He said it, Lou. "Of course...a rematch of game 1".

**Lou Piniella -** Just exactly what we talked about in New York, Chris. I told you that it was going to come down to a game 7 rematch. That's the kind of a year these kids have had. It's their destiny and I can't wait to see it play out.

**Chris Berman -** For you listeners...I had a private conversation with Lou after game 4 in New York, and he told me flat out that this thing was going to go 7 games and that it would be a rematch of the game 1 pitching masterpiece between Wyatt and (Yankees' pitcher). Of course, you had started in with the Jack Daniels, and I didn't give the conversation too much thought until the starting pitchers for tonight's game were announced.

**Lou Piniella -** You've gotta start listening to me, Chris.

**Chris Berman -** We're going to take a short break. A car just pulled up and it looks like all of the Wyatt clan has arrived. I'm going to see if I can get some more participants in this conversation.

**Cut to Commercial Break While Everyone gets Mic'ed up**

**Chris Berman -** Welcome back to San Diego. As you can see...Fuji and Anita have come out of their hiding places and Larry, Shelly and Freddie J have joined us as well. There is coffee and Mimosas for everyone. Good morning everybody!

**All -** Good morning!

**Lou -** (To Chris Berman). Blah, blah, blah!

**Chris Berman -** And, if we could just get Lou to leave, we could have a nice conversation.

**Jacob -** Yeah...good luck with that too! (Everyone laughing).

**Chris Berman -** I must clarify...not everyone is getting to enjoy the Mimosas.

**Jacob -** That's alright. I plan on enjoying some champagne after the game tonight!

**Chris Berman -** (To Fuji). I'm so glad that you came out to join us this morning, Mrs. Wyatt. How are you this morning?



**Fuji -** I'm a nervous wreck! Anita and I were out here most of the night, talking. Neither of us could sleep.

**Larry -** You should have called Shelly. She didn't sleep much last night either.

**Chris Berman -** So...the ladies were up all night and the men were sleeping just fine?

**Larry -** Does that really surprise you, Chris?

**Shelly -** Shut up...dumbass!

**Anita -** (To Shelly). I just love the way you call him dumbass! You know...you've got me calling Lou dumbass now!

**Lou -** (With everyone laughing). Yeah...thanks a lot, Shelly!

**Chris Berman -** I'm so glad that everybody's together. This wild roller coaster ride that you have all been on comes down to one more night of baseball. What then? Do you all know what you're going to do after tonight?

**Shelly -** No, no, no! That's a secret. We can't tell you that.

**Larry -** What secret?

**Shelly -** Thanks a lot, dumbass!

**Chris Berman -** Alright Shelly...what's the plan?

- Shelly -** Larry and Freddie J and I plan to take a few days here in San Diego and really enjoy some time at the Hotel Del Coronado. As you know, we've been staying there while the Padres are at home, and we absolutely love being there. Then it's back to New Zealand for us. We're actually looking forward to getting home.
- Chris Berman -** How about you, Jacob?
- Fuji -** That actually is a secret. (Laughter). We're going to relax for a few days and tie up some loose ends, then our honeymoon begins!
- Chris Berman -** Congratulations, Fuji. It's about time that you made this guy take you on a proper honeymoon.
- Fuji -** Thank you, Mr. Berman. I'm really looking forward to having Jackie all to myself for a little while.
- Chris Berman -** How about you, Anita? What's your plan for after the game.
- Lou -** (Before Anita can answer). We'll be staying at your house for the winter, Berman.
- Chris Berman -** I'd better buy some stock in Jack Daniels!
- Anita -** When we're done drinking all of your Jack Daniels...(laughter), we'll be heading home too. This has been a truly amazing time for us, and we can't possibly thank the Wyatt's for letting us take this ride with them, but it's time to go home and try to figure out what just happened! I miss our grandbabies.

**Shelly -** Good luck with figuring out what just happened, honey! If you figure it out, please call me and let me know! (Laughter).

**Chris Berman -** I know what you mean! I'm a little dizzy from all of this...I can't imagine what it's been like for all of you!

**Jacob -** Mr. Berman, I'm so glad that you and Mrs. Faulkner have been with us all along this year. It's baseball! That's what's been going on and it goes on every year in a new and fun way. I don't understand anybody that says that they don't like baseball. Maybe I'm just a little young and naïve, but I truly believe that each and every baseball season is very much like this season, but maybe for somebody else. This San Diego Padres team was destined to be right where it is right now. I think this was the best young team at the beginning of the season and the end result would have been the same, whether we became a part of the team or not. I'm just thankful that we were blessed to be a part of this very special collection of talented athletes and managers. Everybody worked together as one to make the team better and to win games. We're a really interesting collection of personalities from so many different backgrounds with such different life experiences that have been thrown into a big bowl and mixed together. The result is something truly beautiful and special. That's baseball today, Mr. Berman and that's why you've been here with us...to tell the story that everybody should hear about this collection of very special individuals and I'm thrilled that you and Harris are the ones that have told this story. We all deserved to hear the story that you and Harris have told and if some people that didn't really like baseball have come to love the game the way we love the game, then you have done your job.

**Chris Berman -** Wow! Thanks, Jacob! I believe that your story and the story of these San Diego Padres have made many come to appreciate the game.

**Shelly -** I'll be sending you and Harris each a case of wine as a small thanks for the way you handled our story. We are all so very grateful for you.

**Chris Berman -** Wow! Well...that's it for us from here in San Diego. Tonight...game 7 of the World Series. You really don't want to miss this one!

**Cut to the Bottom of the First Inning**

**Announcer -** Two down here in the bottom half of the first. This game is starting out just like game one. The Yankees were retired in order in the first and the first two Padres went down as well.

**Commentator -** Tingle has shuffled the order again tonight. He has Wyatt batting third instead of first or fourth.

**Announcer -** He really has posted different line-ups for every game. Well...here comes Wyatt with two down in the first.  
Fastball...outside for ball one.

**Commentator -** (Yankees' pitcher) knows that Wyatt loves to swing at the first pitch.

**Announcer -** Here's the one-oh...outside again...ball two.

**Commentator -** This is smart, (Announcer's name). He's not going to let Wyatt see anything that he can drive. With two outs, letting Wyatt walk is not a bad move.

**Announcer -** Two and oh with two out here in the bottom of the first. Fouled straight back...strike one.

**Commentator -** Got him swinging at a high fastball. It looks like Wyatt doesn't want to walk tonight. That was way high.

**Announcer -** He may be a bit anxious here in game 7. Here's the two – one...Breaking ball...inside for ball three.

**Commentator -** Another good pitch.

**Announcer -** Three and one with two outs in the bottom of the first. Pulled foul. Full count.

**Commentator -** Another breaking ball off the plate to get Wyatt swinging.

**Announcer -** Full count to Wyatt. Left field and deep... (Yankees' left fielder) back...it's gone! Home run for Wyatt here in the first!

**Commentator -** Another fastball off the plate (Announcer's name). Wyatt just went out and got that fastball and took it to the opposite field!

**Announcer -** The Padres draw first blood here in game 7 as Wyatt gives himself a 1 - 0 lead.

### **Cut to the Top of the Fifth Inning**

**Announcer -** Runners at the corners with one out here in the top of the fifth as the Yankees try to cut into the Padres 3 – 1 lead. The infield is in at the corners and back looking for a double play in the middle as Wyatt and his catcher, Jordan Parker are talking on the mound.

**Commentator -** I'd love to be in on that conversation, (Announcer's name).

**Announcer -** Much to discuss, (Commentator's name). Holding (Yankees' runner) on first...getting a double play ball or going for a strike out.

**Commentator -** Whatever they want to do...it's been decided, as Parker heads back behind the plate.

**Announcer -** (Yankees' batter) is stepping in with one out and runners at the corners. He squares! Strike one...inside corner!

**Commentator -** I think he was taking all the way, (Announcer's name). (Yankees' runner) didn't come off of third at all and he pulled that bat back really quickly.

**Announcer -** I believe that you're right...but that doesn't mean that (Yankees' manager) won't try to squeeze in a run now (Commentator's name).

**Commentator -** No...it doesn't. Might not be a bad call here.

**Announcer -** Here's the oh – one. Fastball...high for ball one.

**Commentator -** (Giggling). Try to bunt that high fastball!

**Announcer -** Okay...the count is even at one and one. Fastball...inside corner for strike two.

- Commentator -** Back door fastball just did sneak back over the corner.
- Announcer -** One and two with one out and runners at the corners. Ground ball...up the middle...Tatis...diving stab...flip for one...not in time at first! Yankee's score! It's three to two!
- Commentator -** What a play by Tatis...he laid out and just did get a glove on that ball!
- Announcer -** An amazing play, (Commentator's name), to save another first and third situation and a backhanded flip to get the out at second.
- Commentator -** Tatis has made two highlight reel plays here tonight.

### **Cut to the Bottom of the Eighth Inning**

- Announcer -** Bottom of the eighth and it's still three, two Padres. The Yankees have made another pitching change to start the inning, bringing in hard throwing left hander (Yankees' pitchers name) as Wyatt steps in to lead off the Padres half of the inning. The Padres three runs have all come on home runs...a two-run blast by Machado and a solo home run by Wyatt.
- Commentator -** (Yankees' starter) pitched a terrific game through six and two-thirds innings. He kept the Yankees in the game.
- Announcer -** He sure did, but now it's up to (Yankees' pitcher) to hold the Padres at bay. Here's Wyatt and here comes the pitch...fastball, high for ball one.

- Commentator -** He's giving Wyatt a little taste of his own medicine. That pitch came in at 102 MPH!
- Announcer -** Here's the oh – one...fastball...high again. (Yankees' manager) is out of the dugout...he's putting Wyatt on! An intentional walk puts Wyatt on with nobody out here in the eighth.
- Commentator -** He doesn't want his pitcher throwing a two - oh fastball that Wyatt can park into the bleachers, (Announcer's name).
- Announcer -** Alright...one on and nobody out in the bottom of the eighth inning of a 3 – 2 game seven. (Yankees' pitcher) into the stretch...throw to first...not in time.
- Commentator -** That was a really good move. He almost picked Wyatt off there.
- Announcer -** It was close enough that the Yankees want to take a look at that call. What do you think, (Commentator's name), did he get back in time?
- Commentator -** It looks to me like he did, (Announcer's name). Yeah...slow motion replay has his hand touching the bag just ahead of the tag.
- Announcer -** The Yankees agree...they're not challenging the call. Once again, (Yankees' pitcher) into the stretch. Strike one, swinging.
- Commentator -** Got him to chase that high heat!
- Announcer -** Here's the oh – one...throw to first...not in time. This one wasn't as close.



**Commentator -** Naw...he was clearly back this time.

**Announcer -** Oh and one to (Padres' clean-up hitter). There goes Wyatt...lined to second! Diving play...he's got it. Throw to first for a double play! What a play by (Yankees' second baseman).

**Commentator -** Hang on, (Announcer's name). The Padres are saying that he didn't catch that ball cleanly. Wyatt's still standing on second.

**Announcer -** Yeah...let's get a look at the catch...I think he's got it! No...he didn't get it!

**Commentator -** Oh my! That is so close...but...it looks like you're right. I think that ball hit the ground.

**Announcer -** The Padres have challenged the call. It looks like a clean catch, until you get the slow-motion look from the opposite angle. It clearly hits the dirt just before the catch is made. Still a great diving play, (Commentator's name).

**Commentator -** It was! It was a terrific diving play and it just might have saved a run with the jump Wyatt got off of first.

**Announcer -** It's confirmed! No double play. Out at first but safe at second!

**Commentator -** That's just demoralizing for the Yankees. You think that you've ended the threat with a spectacular double play, and you wind up with a runner in scoring position.

**Announcer -** The Padres get a break. One out and a runner on second in the bottom half of the eighth inning. Here comes (Padres' #5 hitter).

(Yankees' pitcher) into the stretch. Bunted...bunted down the third base line!  
(Yankees' third baseman) to first to get the out! A one out sacrifice bunt moves Wyatt down to third!

**Commentator -** I'm not so sure that he meant for that to be a sacrifice. If (Yankees' third baseman) hadn't made a perfect bare-handed grab and throw to first, he'd have been in. I think he was bunting for a hit!

**Announcer -** Looking at the replay...you may be right. He really didn't give himself up by squaring early, but he also didn't drag that ball.

**Commentator -** Not really sure...but I'll bet that he'll tell you it was a sacrifice all the way!

**Announcer -** (Laughing). I don't doubt that. Either way...here we are with a runner on third with two outs and Tingle is sending up a right-handed pinch hitter. (Padres' pinch hitter) is stepping in with two outs.

**Commentator -** Tingle really had to make this move. (Yankees' reliever) is really tough on left-handed batters.

**Announcer -** (Yankees' third baseman) is holding Wyatt on at third. Here's the pitch...fastball...strike one swinging.

**Commentator -** Another overpowering fastball up in the zone for a strike.

**Announcer -** Oh and one to (Padres' pinch hitter). Ball one...inside.

**Commentator -** Terrific breaking ball there. Just did miss the plate.

- Announcer -** One and one with two out in the eighth. Fastball...IT GOT AWAY! Here comes Wyatt...the throw...he's safe! Wyatt scores on a passed ball! It's 4 – 2 Padres!
- Commentator -** We'll have to see how that's scored. It might be called a wild pitch.
- Announcer -** Something's going on with Wyatt (Commentator's name). He went to the dugout holding his left hand. Let's see what happened.
- Commentator -** Oh yeah...he got spiked. He went head-first and (Yankees' pitcher) slid into home to make the play and the bottom of his shoe went right across Wyatt's left hand.
- Announcer -** There was nothing dirty about that play. It's just a hard, close play at the plate and they came together. There's quite a crowd around Wyatt in the Padres dugout.
- Commentator -** You've got Larry Rothschild, Piniella, Tingler and the trainer all around Wyatt in the Padres dugout. This doesn't look good, (Announcer's name).
- Announcer -** No. It doesn't look good at all. We'll get a report on Wyatt's situation as soon as we can. The bottom of the eighth continues and (Yankees' pitcher) into the stretch. Fly ball into right. Yankees right fielder under it and that's it for the bottom of the eighth. The Padres have extended their lead to 4 – 2, but there is serious concern about Wyatt in the Padres dugout. We don't know about his condition right now, but we'll give you a report after the break.

**Cut to the Top of the Ninth Inning**

- Announcer -** Welcome back to the top of the ninth inning in game 7 of the World Series. Wyatt is making his way to the mound after being held up in the dugout to have his pitching hand cared for. We're hearing that the back of Wyatt's hand has been lacerated and they're applying a butterfly bandage and some super glue to try to stop the bleeding. I don't know (Commentator's name). I just don't see how he can continue with a serious injury to his pitching hand.
- Commentator -** I don't either. You've gotta give him credit for guts, but I'm not sure this is the smartest move for Tingle and the Padres. You've got a strong bullpen that is fairly well rested. You've got some strong options to get just three more outs to win the World Series.
- Announcer -** I agree with you. However, none of them are Jacob Wyatt. It looks like Tingle is going to let him continue if he can.
- Commentator -** He's throwing! He's surrounded by Tingle, Rothschild and the trainer, but he's throwing.
- Announcer -** He's throwing hard too. That last pitch was 101 on the gun. Amazing! Tingle and his coaches are going back to the dugout. It's going to be Wyatt on the mound here in the ninth.
- Commentator -** (Announcer's name), I'm surprised that Tingle is letting him continue. The pictures that we have show a serious, deep cut on the back of his throwing hand.
- Announcer -** It may not matter. He's done with his warm-up pitches and he's bleeding quite a bit. Here comes the Yankees' manager out of the dugout and he's pointing at the blood on Wyatts' hip. Wyatt has been dabbing his wrist against his pants and there's a lot of blood. You can't have a pitcher bleeding all over the ball.

**Commentator -** Here comes Tingle and they're all heading out to the mound. Oh yeah...he's really bleeding now.

**Announcer -** They're all looking at the hand. There's not a lot of conversation going on out there. Okay...everybody is leaving except Wyatt and Tingle. That's it...Tingle is signaling for a right-handed reliever. Tingle has his arm around a clearly unhappy Wyatt.

**Commentator -** This is really unfortunate. Wyatt's pitched very well and he really wants to finish this game. You can't blame him for being upset.

**Announcer -** No...you can't blame him, but it's out of his hands now. The Yankees have just three more outs and they're down 4 – 2. Tingle is bringing in his closer and he has been terrific in this series against the Yankees.

Wyatt's heading into the dugout and just listen to this Petco crowd! (Wyatt tips his hat to the crowd as he steps into the dugout).

**Commentator -** What a series this has been. This has been a brawl from the first pitch of the first game and it looks like it's going to be a brawl all the way up to the last pitch.

**Announcer -** Here we go! The Yankees have the 6,7 and 8 batters scheduled here in the ninth. (Yankees' hitter) is stepping into the box.

(Padres' closer) into the wind up...fastball...taken for strike one.

**Commentator -** He was taking all the way there. That fastball was right down the middle.

**Announcer -** Here's the oh – one...fastball...fouled back for strike two.

**Commentator -** Good hack on that fastball. He just did miss that one.

**Announcer -** Here's the oh – two...outside...ball one.

**Commentator -** Everybody's on their feet. Both dugouts and the entire Petco crowd are standing.

**Announcer -** One and two to (Yankees' hitter). Ground ball...off Machado...here comes Tatis...the throw...he's out! Unbelievable! Tatis barehanded the ball and gunned it to first for out number one!

**Commentator -** Great play by Tatis, but an even better play by Machado. He dove and just did get the tip of his glove on the ball, sending the ball to Tatis to make the play. Score that play, 5-6-3 and they were all terrific there.

**Announcer -** You're right...watching this play on replay, Machado laid out to tip the ball to Tatis and Hosmer stretched out and snagged that throw on a short hop to get the putout. Great Padres teamwork to get the first out of the ninth inning.

**Commentator -** Another heartbreaker for the Yankees. That ball was ripped, and a trio of Padres combined to rob (Yankees' hitter) of a lead off base hit.

**Announcer -** Here we go with one out in the ninth and (Yankees' manager) is sending up pinch hitter (Yankees' hitter name).

(Padres closer) stretches...FLY BALL...DEEP LEFT CENTER...IT'S GONE!  
First pitch home run for (Yankees' hitter name) to make it a one run game with just one out in the ninth.

- Commentator -** That was another fastball right down the middle. I think he was expecting (Yankees' hitter) to take a strike and (Yankees' hitter) just crushed that fastball. That ball sure did get out of here in a hurry!
- Announcer -** It really did. Not a lot of air under that ball...it was a line shot.
- (Padres' closer) has a new ball and (Yankees' manager) is bringing in another pinch hitter. (Yankees' hitter) is stepping in as (Padres' closer) looks in. Here's the pitch...fastball...high for ball one.
- Commentator -** No more first pitch fastballs right down the middle, I guess.
- Announcer -** (Chuckling). Here's the one – oh...breaking ball...called strike one.
- Commentator -** Surprise breaking ball. (Yankees' hitter) was clearly looking for a fastball there and the curveball just froze him.
- Announcer -** One and one to (Yankees' hitter). Fastball...down the right field line and out of play. It's a ball and two strikes to (Yankees' hitter).
- (Padres closer) looking in. Ground ball...right side...IT'S THROUGH! Single to right to keep the Yankees hopes alive here in the ninth.
- Commentator -** Nice piece of hitting there (Announcer's name). He just went with the pitch and smacked it through the hole between first and second.
- Announcer -** Very smart at bat and the Yankees now have the tying run aboard and the go ahead run stepping up to the plate with just one out here in the ninth. The pitchers spot is coming up, so we are going to see a third straight pinch hitter.

- Commentator -** Aaron Boone is getting the most out of his bench tonight. He's running out of options...but...if you don't score again, it really doesn't matter who's left on the bench.
- Announcer -** That's for sure. Like you said earlier...this has been an extremely well-played series. It's also been an extremely well managed series on both sides.
- One on and one out with the Padres leading the Yankees 4 – 3 in the ninth inning. (Yankees' hitter) stepping in against (Padres' closer). (Padres' closer) into the stretch. Throw to first...not in time.
- Here's the pitch...fastball...outside for ball one.
- Commentator -** Everybody's standing, including both dugouts, (Announcer's name).
- Announcer -** One and oh to (Yankees' hitter). Strike one, swinging!
- Commentator -** Little slider just off the plate got him swinging.
- Announcer -** Here's the 1 – 1. Ground ball...second base...throw to first for the second out of the inning. (Yankees' runner) goes to second.
- Commentator -** (Padres' second baseman) had only one play on that ball. It wasn't hit hard enough to go for two.
- Announcer -** The tying run is now in scoring position with two outs and Tingler is bringing in a lefty from the bullpen.
- Commentator -** Top of the order coming up with a chance to tie the game with a base hit.



- Announcer -** We're told that they have stopped the bleeding from Wyatt's hand. They have it bandaged and he's now standing on the top steps of the dugout. Good news for the Padres.
- Commentator -** Good news, indeed! Apparently, it is not a significant injury. Just a surface wound that they just couldn't get to stop bleeding when he threw the ball.
- Announcer -** That may turn out to be the most expensive insurance run in the history of the World Series...but it also may turn out to be the most important as well. Right now, it's the difference in the game.
- Commentator -** You're right. You've got to wonder if Wyatt had opted for a feet first slide rather than head-first if this game would be over.
- Announcer -** Here we go. Runner in scoring position with two out in the ninth inning of game 7 of the World Series.  
  
Fastball...high for ball one.
- Commentator -** Maybe high, (Announcer's name).
- Announcer -** Yeah...he didn't miss by much.  
  
Here's the one – oh...fastball, strike one swinging!
- Commentator -** Same fastball there...he came right back with a high fastball.
- Announcer -** One and one to (Yankees' hitter). High drive...deep to center...it's got a chance, (Padres' center fielder) to his right...on the track...he's got it! He's got it! It's over! The Padres win the series! The San Diego Padres have won their first ever World Series!

**Cut to Video of the Padres Celebrating**

Roll credits over the top of scenes of celebration on the field, in the dugout and in the stands.