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SPORTS

TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2004

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE

STANDINGS

Table showing American League standings with columns for Central, East, and West divisions, listing teams like Detroit, Cleveland, and Toronto.

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TODAY'S PITCHING MATCHUPS

Table of pitching matchups for today's games, including pitcher names and team abbreviations.

LEADERS

Table of league leaders for batting average, home runs, and RBIs.

RESULTS

Table of game results from previous days, including scores and game numbers.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

STANDINGS

Table showing National League standings with columns for Central, East, and West divisions.

Times print page C12

TODAY'S PITCHING MATCHUPS

Table of pitching matchups for today's games in the National League.

LEADERS

Table of league leaders for batting average, home runs, and RBIs in the National League.

TWINS REPORT

Home games in bold. Schedule for the week of April 6-12, 2004, listing dates, times, and opponents.

Victory talks remain stalled

Twins fans face long summer

By Judd Zolgard, Star Tribune Staff Writer. Rumors of potential agreements between Victory SportsNet and cable operators began spreading Monday afternoon. Call it a case of Opening Day optimism...

discussions going on that are new, and to my knowledge there aren't any scheduled... Victory has been sending between \$2.20 and \$2.50 per subscriber per month (PSN) charges in the \$1.70 range and distribution on expanded basic cable... Victory's proposal to Time Warner included placing the channel on 30 to 40 days...

REUSSE from C1

Cuddyer's throw saves Twins

This was only the second time that Cleveland had provided the opposition for a Twins home opener. Early in the evening, the rebuilding Indians had an effective method for dealing with this slow-as-sludge surface in the Metrodome.



Michael Cuddyer, right, shook hands with Twins right fielder Jacques Jones before throwing out the first pitch on Monday night.

Cleveland simply hit the ball over the fence, had back, making his eighth opening start for the Twins, surrendered three home runs in six innings. This would not have been a surprise if a while back, when the middle of Cleveland's lineup included Manny Ramirez, Albert Belle and Jim Thome...

There were some untidinesses, including red-faced baseman Michael Cuddyer being required to throw out Sam Laman on the plate for Nathan in the 10th, but the Indians were blamed for this three-run home run by Stewart with two outs in the 11th to give the Twins a 4-1 victory. Chad Durbin, working his first inning, hung an off-speed pitch on a 1-1 count and Stewart clubbed it into the left field seats...



Yankee-Armed-Astoria Roger Clemens (22) and Andy Pettitte line up for Opening Day introductions in Houston on Monday night. Pettitte makes his Astros debut today.

Braves secure Cox through 2005

BASEBALL NOTES

The Atlanta Braves exercised their 2005 option on Bobby Cox on Monday, putting him under contract for his 20th season as manager of the franchise. Cox managed the team from 1978 to '91, then returned in 1990. He has 1,806 victories, sixth on the career list and second among active managers behind Tony La Russa of the St. Louis Cardinals.

Elsewhere: Florida's Jeff Conine might miss the opener against Montreal tonight because of a sinus infection... Pittsburgh extended the contract of General Manager Dave Littlefield through 2007 and exercised the 2005 option on manager Lloyd McClendon... Los Angeles added former 21-game winner Jose Lima and infielder Jose Hernandez to the 15-day disabled list because of a broken finger and purchased the contract of reliever Eddie Oropesa, a former Saints pitcher...