

**IF SO, IT WAS POOR JOB**

## Twins Were Spying?

By **TOM BRIERE**  
Minneapolis Tribune  
Staff Writer

The greatest excitement for 32,735 Twins' fans at Metropolitan Stadium Monday came in the second-inning wonderment over the protest of manager Earl Weaver of Baltimore to home plate umpire Frank Umont.

Weaver pointed to the outfield, and umpire crew chief Nestor Chylak at second base even entered the discussion.

Weaver claimed the Twins were "cheating" with a 10th man in the scoreboard in right-center field calling the pitches.

Imagine, manager Billy Martin of the Twins doing a thing like that in the great American pastime of baseball, 1969 playoff style.

"Yah," Martin waved his beer mug in the cool of the clubhouse after the game, "that was the turning point. We had a submarine periscope man in the scoreboard."

But, after the Orioles won 11-2 to gain American League representation in the World Series against the upstart New York

Mets, manager Weaver presented his version of "scoreboard superspy."

"We had Curt Motton in our dugout with the field glasses on that hole in the scoreboard just to the right of the 'error' sign after Orioles," said Weaver.

"At first, they had a cloth waving over the hole. We asked them to take it down. Then Motton noted that there was a head bobbing out there in the hole.

"We checked it out with the glasses and strangely enough, the man had his arms up high when the pitch was a curve ball and down low when it was a fast ball.

"Now I'm not saying this decided the series or that the Twins were stealing our signs. But at the bare possibility that it might help the Twins' batters to know what our pitcher (Jim Palmer) was throwing, I checked it out with the umpires."

Umpire Frank Umont said the man could have stayed in the scoreboard all day if he wanted.

"I told Weaver he was working out there," said Umont.

Weaver answered that by saying that after his

second-inning protest, "the man in the scoreboard disappeared."

The umpires said that if they had known Motton had field glasses in the Baltimore dugout, he would have been removed.

"That's against the rules,"

Under any rules, the Orioles won and Weaver said, "I haven't thought of the New York Mets in the World Series. We've had our scout Jim Russe on the Mets, but I haven't seen the report and I won't look at it tomorrow. I'm taking the day off.

"I'm so concerned I don't even know what time the first game of the World Series starts Saturday."

In the meantime, Frank Robinson of the Orioles was holding "Kangaroo Court" in the Baltimore clubhouse and he fined Weaver for saying the Orioles needed to win five more to win the World Series.

Over on the Twins' side, Martin said, "The Mets have some pitching, but they'll be surprised to see some of these Baltimore hitters. I like Baltimore in the World Series."

**Twins**

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