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Twins

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from his heels. He has a nice, level stroke."

Kusick, who attended La Crosse State College and now lives in La Crosse, was not particularly happy to return to the minor leagues this year. "I was upset when I heard that the Twins were thinking of moving Rod Carew to first," Kusick said. Ermer, however, took Kusick aside and assured him that if Carew did play first base, it would not be on a long-term basis.

"I see where Harmon is really hitting the ball again," Kusick said. "I want to play with the Twins, but I'd also like to see Harmon hit 600 home runs (he has 550 now)."

Ermer has a number of other quality players on his roster, some of them destined for the majors and others who are merely good minor leaguers. The infield is composed of Kusick at first, Bill Ralston at second, Dale Soderholm at short, Danny Monzon or Rick Renick at third. George Pena does most of the catching, Mike Adams or Lyman Bostock plays in left, Ed Palat is in center and Jim Fairey or Tom Kelly is in right.

The best pitchers are Dan Vossler, Jim Hughes, Danny Fife, Mike Pazik and Eddie Bane, a competent staff that recently supplied Dave Goltz and Bill Butler to the Twins. The designated hitter is Danny Walton, who became a switch hitter over the winter and currently is batting .290.

"We've got a lot of characters on this team," Ermer said. "The Minnesota fans all know about Walton. He's a real cutup. Vossler is a fantastic mimic. He's got an imitation of Killebrew that you wouldn't believe."

The only negative points about the Tacoma Twins are the weather and the attendance, and they tie in together. Tacoma is a rainy city, chilly in the spring, and the crowds at Chenet Stadium have been small. Asked how he got his games in during bad weather, Ermer replied:

"We play right through the rain."

Killebrew hit a pair of two-run homers and a long single as the Twins defeated Tacoma 9-3.

Larry Hise drove in three runs for the Twins, who reached Tacoma starter Pazik for four runs and five hits in three innings. Pazik was obtained Saturday from the New York Yankees in the Dick Woodson trade and sent out to Tacoma.

Kusick doubled in Tacoma's first run in the first inning, but the Twins put it away with five runs in the fourth.

Minnesota	210	500	000	-9	3	1	(4), Roof (7); Pazik, Veintidos (4),
Tacoma	200	000	001	-1	4	0	Schuster (7) and Pena, Ceci (5).
								Hand (8) and Baramann, Hundley
								HB-Killebrew 2.

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