**Ted Williams Notes**

**Slide 2** - Wade Boggs said “Ted Williams is who John Wayne wanted to be when he (John Wayne) was growing up.”

**Slide 4** - Williams credited his hitting success more to focus and discipline than his great eyesight. He would get mad when people credited his eyesight for his hitting success.

**Slide 5** - Military hero and TOUGH – Broke elbow in first inning of 1950 AS game. Stayed in; went one for four. Surgery next day!

**Slide 6** - Home run bounced off of the straw hat of 56 year old Joe Boucher. Red Sox painted the seat red a few years later in honor of the home run.

**Slide 7** - He went 6 for 8 on the last day, raising his average to .406

**Slide 9** – (A Perfectionist) To combat the shift, Williams did not want to alter his swing. As a result, he experimented with a heavier bat to slow down his swing. He also noticed a mis-aligned home plate at Fenway and a batter’s box that was not level in Kansas City.

**Slide 11** – (Trade to Yankees) After a Yankee home game in 1947, Red Sox owner Tom Yawkey and Yankees owner Dan Topping went drinking at Toots Shor’s bar.

**Slide 12** – (Almost retired after 1954) Because of divorce proceedings, Williams did not report to the Red Sox in 1955 until May 28th (game 42). He ended up hitting .356 with 28 HRs and 83 RBIs.

**Slide 13** – (Almost hit .400 twice) In 1957, at age 39, he fell five hits short of batting .400 (he hit .388)

**Slide 14** – (AL Mgr of the Year) In 1968, the Senators finished in last place. In his first season as manager (1969), Williams led them to a 4th place finish with a 86-76 record – with most of the same players.

**Slide 15** – (Walk as good as a Hit) DiMaggio has one of most famous records of all time – hitting in 56 consecutive games. In 1949, Williams reached base an incredible 84 consecutive games.

**Slide 16** – (Pitching) Gave up one run in two innings as the Sox lost 12-1 to Detroit. He struck out one batter. First game of DH; manager used him to save arms for second game.

**Slide 17** – (John Glenn saved his life) During the Korean War, Williams’ F9F Panther jet was hit by anti-aircraft fire and burst into flames. Glenn flew by and pointed skyward. Flying into thinner air put out the fire. Flew almost 40 missions with Glenn as wingman.

**Slide 18** – (Harvard) Curt Gowdy called Williams the “smartest person I ever met” To honor his achievements in hitting, aviation, fishing and photography – Harvard proposed giving him an honorary degree in 1991. Williams declined saying he “didn’t earn it and it’s not the right thing to do.”

**Slide 23** – (HOF) Williams and Casey Stengel were inducted into the baseball HOF in 1966. Williams was only the 8th player elected on the first ballot.

**Slide 24** – (Fishing HOF) Williams and four others were inducted into the International Game Fish Association's Fishing Hall of Fame in Dania Beach, Fla. In February 2000.

**Slide 27** – (The Greatest) Joe Gordon won MVP in 1942; Joe DiMaggio in 1947. Only two players have had multiple Triple Crown seasons – Williams and Rogers Hornsby