**FOUNDING FATHERS BASEBALL TEAM July 2, 2018 Season 9**

**Slide 1** – July 4 is Wednesday, so I thought we might talk about the Founding Fathers. Here’s a picture of them at the Constitutional Convention in 1787. Let’s see what you can remember about them from high school American History class, and if we can make up a lineup of ballplayers named after the Founding Fathers.

**Slide 2** – Here’s how this will work. I’ll give you some clues about the Founding Father – see if you can name him – and then some clues about a ballplayer that shares his last – or maybe – first - name. Let’s start with an easy one …

**Slide 3** – ADAMS -- 2 clues about ballplayer

**Slide 4** – LEE – 3 clues about ballplayer

**Slide 5** – Remember – the ballplayer’s last OR first name might match the Founding Father.

 MADISON – 4 clues

**Slide 6** – FRANKLIN – John, if you’ll pull out that roll of $100 bills from your pocket, we’ll identify this Founding Father right away… haha ..

 4 clues about ballplayer

 The six men who signed both the Declaration of Independence and Constitution??

 Along with Franklin, James Wilson, Robert Morris and George Clymer all from PA

 Roger Sherman from CONN. & George Read from DEL.

**Slide 7** – HAMILTON – 3 clues about ballplayer.

**Slide 8** – JAY – 3 clues about ballplayer. --- Kay, one of your Reds ---

**Slide 9** – everything is bigger and better in Texas. We have another set of Founders here…

**Slide 10** – so we’ll try to identify the Texas Founding Father, along with a ballplayer that shares his name AND was born in Texas … AUSTIN – 3 clues about ballplayer.

**Slide 11** – TRAVIS – 3 clues about player

**Slide 12** – HOUSTON – UT fans, you’ve seen this guy pitch … 3 clues about player

**Slide 13** – So that’s my version of the Founding Fathers Baseball Team. It did beg the question … who was the first President to play baseball? Unclear, but Abraham Lincoln was the first president who was reported to have played. He was reportedly playing baseball in Springfield, Illinois when a reporter told him that a delegation was coming from the Republican Convention in Chicago to tell him of his nomination for president. Lincoln was quoted as saying “I am glad to hear of their coming, but they will have to wait a few minutes until I get my turn at bat.”

Lincoln is also portrayed in this famous picture showing his victory over the three challengers in the 1860 presidential election. He says <<read quote>> and symbolically, he’s standing on home (a square in those days.)

**Slide 14** – So Wednesday we’ll celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence. In this famous painting, the President of the Second Continental Congress is in the chair. Here he receives a draft of the Declaration of Independence from the Committee of Five – Adams, Jefferson, Franklin, Sherman, and Livingston. He went on to sign the Declaration, supposedly so boldly that “King George could read it without his spectacles.” WHO IS HE ? JOHN HANCOCK

We’re going to finish with a revolutionary song. The Founding Fathers would have been familiar with this song -- Yankee Doodle. The early English lyrics were written by British officers and made fun of the colonial militia-men that fought under their command in the French and Indian Wars in the 1750s. The lyrics were re-written by a Harvard student who served as a minute-man and verses were added mocking the Redcoats and praising George Washington. It is the state anthem of Connecticut.

Let’s sing.