

PLAYER WITH HIS PANTS DOWN

Steve Lyons will be remembered as the baseball player who dropped his pants.

Max Lucado, author and minister, writes about Lyons in his book *In the Eye of the Storm*.

Lyons, he said, “could be remembered as an outstanding infielder ... as the player who played every position for the Chicago White Sox ... as the guy who always dove into first base ... as a favorite of the fans who high-fived the guy who caught the foul ball in the bleachers.”

But he won't, Lucado wrote. “He'll be remembered as the player who dropped his pants on July 16, 1990.”

The White Sox were playing the Tigers in Detroit. Lyons bunted and raced down the first-base line. He knew it was going to be tight, so he dove at the bag. Safe! The Tigers' pitcher disagreed. He and the umpire got into a shouting match, and Lyons stepped in to voice his opinion.

Absorbed in the game and the debate, Lyons felt dirt trickling down the inside of his pants. Without missing a beat, he dropped his britches to empty the dirt out and brush off his shirttail and – uh-oh! – 20,000 jaws hit the bleachers' floor.



And, as you can imagine, the jokes began. Women behind the White Sox dugout waved dollar bills when he came onto the field. Within 24 hours of the “exposure,” he received more exposure than he'd gotten his entire career: seven live television and about 20 radio interviews.

Fortunately for Lyons, he was wearing sliding pants under his baseball pants, but the incident earned him the nickname, “Moon Man” Lyons.

Now I don't know Steve Lyons, and I am normally not appreciative of men who drop their pants in public. But I think Steve Lyons deserves a salute. Anybody who dives headfirst into first base deserves a salute.

(more)

How many guys do you see roaring down the baseline of life more concerned about getting a job done than they are about saving their necks? How often do you see people diving headfirst into anything?

Too seldom, right? But when we see a gutsy human throwing caution to the wind and taking a few risks – ah, now that’s a person worthy of a pat on the ... back.

So He said, “Come.” And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus (Matthew 14:29 NKJV).

– Beecher Hunter