

TRANSCRIPT - THE INTERVIEW: BASEBALL WITH PAUL

Why do you like baseball?

I like baseball because it is very colorful and entertaining especially if you understand it. There are also a lot of interesting stories and people related to baseball history. Joe Dimaggio, a player for the New York Yankees, was married to Marilyn Monroe, for example.

How do you play baseball?

For foreign people, baseball is slow and very difficult to understand. The object of the game is to make more runs than the other team. A run is when a player is able to go around all the bases, first base, second base, third base, and home, which is where he/she started. There are nine players on each team. The two teams take turns being offense and defense. Each complete turn on offense and defense is called an inning. There are nine innings in a game. The teams with the most runs, wins.

But baseball is complicated; my advice is to watch a game to understand. What makes baseball interesting are the details and the stories that are related to the game.

What is your favourite team?

My favourite team is the Cardinals. They are from my hometown St. Louis and they play at Busch Stadium. They are a famous team and have won 11 World Series Championships, second only after the New York Yankees. When I was a child, they won two championships. A cardinal is a typical red bird from St. Louis so the team's colors are red and white.

Did you play baseball?

Many American children play baseball when they are young. This is called 'Little League' baseball. I played baseball from about 8-15 years old. I won several trophies but I stopped playing in high school because I was not so good.

What are your best memories of baseball?

I remember listening to a lot of games on the radio, they only showed a few games on television. My family would sit in the living room and we would listen to the exciting matches and commentaries. I wanted to be a professional baseball player because it seemed very glamorous. And of course, I loved going to the stadium. So if you have the opportunity to travel to the USA, go and watch a game.