

Be A Sport . . .

by Randy York Assistant Sports Editor

Don Shanklin and Paul Rogers, please step aside for awhile. Baseball, yes, baseball (anybody ever heard of it around here?), moves into the sport spotlight with the start of the World Series Wednesday.

It's Bob Gibson and Denny McLain squaring off in St. Louis' Busch Memorial Stadium. The opening clash has received one of the biggest preliminary buildups in Series history, simply because of the mound rivalry.

Sure, the Cards and the Tigers ran roughshod over everyone en route to their respective flags. But what people really want to know is: who is better, McLain, the prolific 31-game winner or Gibson, the steady pacemaker who can wear down a fresh supply of hitters in a 15-inning game?

TIME MAGAZINE thought so much of McLain's feats this year that it devoted its cover story to him two weeks ago. He may down 10 16-ounce bottles of Pepsi a day (the figure used to be 15), but he still managed to produce a 30-game season, marking the first time that it has been done in 34 years.

And the organ-playing entertainer turned the trick at age 24. Gibson is 32, 2 1/2 inches taller than McLain and 10 pounds heavier. What's more, Gibby has just completed his best season ever with 22 wins.

He's awful stingy too, carving a 1.12 E.R.A. this year to shatter the all-time National League record. Gibby, a graduate of Omaha Tech High School and who attended Creighton University, is most noted for his endurance and ability to progressively get better as the season wears on.

He started the year unimpressively with a 3-5 record but then reeled off 15 consecutive victories. Gibson finished the season with 13 shutouts and was the first pitcher ever to whitewash eight teams in a single season.

Gibson's success story comes into focus with the timely release of his new book, "From Ghetto To Glory" as told to Phil Pepe. In the book, Gibson describes just what it is that makes the El Birdos click.

A few simple paragraphs: "I know we are professionals and that rah-rah stuff is not supposed to apply to us . . . and I know one more thing. I know that every player who came over from another team — Cepeda, Maris, Bressoud, Jack Lamabe — all of them said the same thing.

"IT IS difficult to explain as it is to understand. The Cardinal team has always been like that as long as I've been on it. All the guys seem to pull together."

This cohesive or glue-like quality, Gibson believes, spawns championship baseball teams. Gibson continues, "There are no cliques on the Cardinals. We have parties together, we go out together. I've gone out with Bob Skinner when he was on the team, and I go out with Dal Maxvill a lot. We go to dinner or out on the town in San Francisco or Chicago or Los Angeles."

"We don't have three separate groups like some clubs where the Negro guys stay together, the Spanish guys stay together and the white guys stay together."

The Cards will throw Gibson (22-9), Nelson Briles (19-11) and Ray Washburn (14-8) against McLain (31-6), Mickey Lolich (17-9) and Earl Wilson (13-12). Who would you take? The fact that this is the Redbirds' third Series appearance in the last five years might be considered whereas the Tigers plunge into Series action for the first time in 23 years.

THE LAST time Detroit took the field in the classic was in 1934. Remember the foe? Of course, the Cardinal Gas House Gang, a collection of cut-throats who climaxed a September run to the pennant with the Series' crown. There was no stretch run this year, but the Series' script should be the same. The Cards will win it in six games in this column's opinion.

True, the Tigers' momentum after they had already clinched the title kept pace while the Cards dipped into an abrupt slump. This has prompted many observers to tag the Tigers as the likely choice. The oddsmakers, however, have thrown their support to St. Louis, 8 to 5.

It all boils down to Gibson and McLain. Their illuminating credentials do not solve matters any. Gibson has been in the majors 10 years, McLain five. And perhaps an important department overlooked by sideline skeptics is that McLain has yielded 31 home runs, Gibson only 11.

Yes, the Redbirds will take the Series in six. Gibson won't even have to pitch three times.

JACK RICE of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch thinks the Cards win the best-dressed team trophy too.

Rice says "Now, as General Doubleday said, 'street clothes do not make the baseball team,' but the Cardinals have been working all season on the premise that it helps.

"They have as fine a collection of Nehru jackets, medallions, turtle-neck sweaters and other mod refinements as is available anywhere among the moneyed class, professional athletes. They also could step out of their league and present a strong representative in a campus competition for most lovely suburban."

Series begins on University intramurals . . .

Flag football fields decrease to 4 with B-team elimination possible

Editor's Note — This is the first in a five-part series on the University's intramural department.

by Mark Gordon Sports Editor

Four years ago, nine flag football fields were available for intramural games, but today with the elimination of B team football a possibility, the number of fields has decreased to four.

With the football schedule faced with a shortage of space, University intramural director Joel Meier's main problem concerns finishing the season before the snows come.

"RIGHT NOW we're playing double sessions at each field to take up the lack of playing fields," he said. "Perhaps we will finish."

The Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department loaned the intramural department the Woods Park area for flag-football games last fall. Although the agreement was for just the 1967 season, the city has agreed to permit games to be held this fall.

"Last season even with the eight fields at Woods Park, we had to play at every hour and in every corner of the field just to finish the season," Meier said.

The elements overcame the flag football program during the 1964-65 academic year. The football playoffs were delayed until spring when the grounds dried from the winter snows and the football season concluded after a four-month interim.

During the 1964 flag football season, three fields on east campus, four fields on ground presently occupied by the new Women's Physical Education Building and two football fields where the current Mall parking lot is located were used for football games.

Today, the three east campus fields remain for possibly another year and one additional field has been constructed on Vine Street behind Abel Hall.

TO ACCOMMODATE the loss of five fields in four years, Meier has placed teams in smaller leagues, eliminating several games for each team.

Before the shortage of fields occurred, Meier said teams played a round robin schedule in leagues with seven or eight teams. Now teams play in leagues of only five or six teams with the top two clubs in each league advancing to a single-elimination All-University playoff schedule.

"This means that some teams only play four games, while a few years ago, they used to be able to play six or seven games at a minimum," Meier said.

Four years ago 82 teams played; three years ago that number jumped to 92 and last year a record-breaking 108 flag football teams entered competition.

This year, with B teams not entered yet due to a lack of fields, the number has decreased to 88. But if the University can provide about \$170 to pay expenses to schedule games at the Woods Park Field at 33rd and O Streets, B football will be held and the number of football teams will approach 120.

"We have Woods Park available for games," he said. "But we need about \$170 to pay a supervisor to watch all games and to pay a driver to haul all our equipment back and forth from campus to Woods Park."

HE SAID he has written to the Dean of Student Affairs office and he is awaiting word if the additional funds can be provided from another source. The intramural department has exhausted all the funds from its current budget.

Meier expects to be notified this week if the money can be raised and B football can be played this fall.

But even if B football is held and the eight-field area at Woods Park can be used, future prospects for playing fields remain less than optimistic.

Meier said that it is anticipated, possibly as early as next fall, that the University will construct buildings on the three fields at east campus, leaving the intramural department with only one flag football field.

"Obviously," he said, "that would force us to cancel flag football."

THREE FIELDS had been planned for this fall behind Abel Hall, but only one was completed, according to Meier. He added that the University is expected to construct three additional fields behind Abel, with temporary lights, enabling five games to be played there nightly.

"With lights on three fields, that will give us more space than ever before," he said. "But you can't play every day on a football field."

He noted that after one or two weeks of constant playing, the fields will have no grass.

The plans for the project have already been drawn up, according to Meier, and they are awaiting final approval from the University business manager before construction can begin.

"I'm really not satisfied with it because it's just a temporary situation," he added. "But it is suitable if it is made with the understanding that the University will try to find a larger, better situated area which will be permanent."

Meier said the best arrangement for flag football games would be to play all games at one large field rather than scheduling games at various sites in Lincoln.

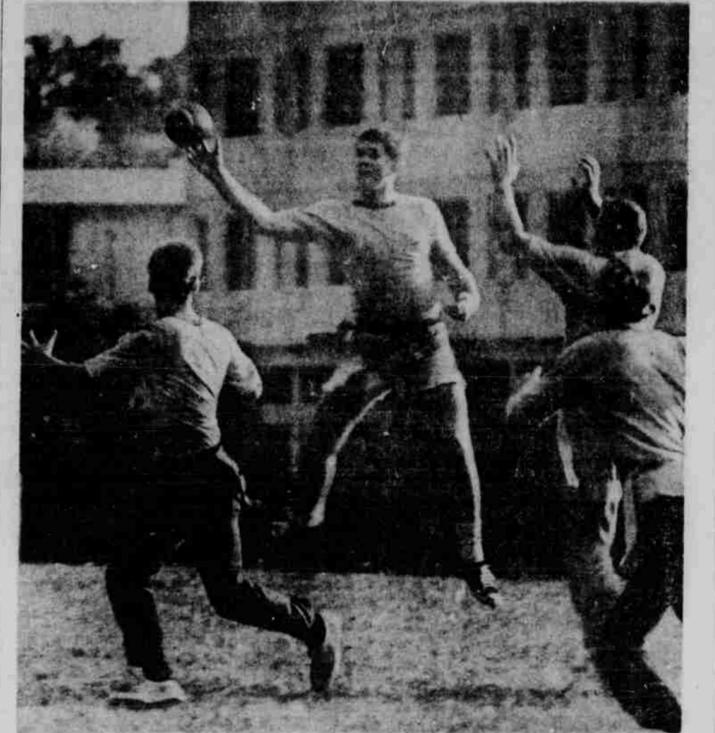
"I just hope we don't run into the same situation we ran into with the Men's Physical Education Building," he said. "That was supposed to be a temporary building back in the early 1940s and it is our permanent location today in 1968."

MEIER SAID the new project behind Abel Hall, even without the benefits he had wanted such as greater-power lights, is still expensive.

The lights are expected to cost \$8,000 and the ground must be leveled and the debris removed.

"But we still need a permanent field for the future," he added.

Next—Basketball and softball situations.



The Falcons and the Dirty Old Men battle saw flag football action as the University's intramural season rolls into its second week. The lack of playing space has caused teams to play at irregular times and on Saturday mornings.

Husker 'cowboys' win second place

The University of Nebraska Intercollegiate Rodeo Team finished second in total number of points earned out of thirteen schools at Wisconsin State University in River Falls, September 28 and 29.

This was the first National Intercollegiate Rodeo in the Great Plains Region this fall.

CHIP WHITAKER was

runner-up for the All-Around Cowboy. He tied for first place in steer wrestling and won third place in saddle bronc.

Larry Radant won second in calf roping and tied for third place in ribbon roping. John Sennett won fourth place in steer wrestling and sixth in ribbon roping.

Greg Phifer tied for third in bull riding. Other members of the rodeo team include: Jerry Cosler, Don Cosler, Mike Kucera and J. C. McHatten.

The team will be traveling to Ames, Iowa, October 18-19 for the Iowa State Rodeo, and

to Fargo, North Dakota, November 1-2.

Current Movies section listing various films and showtimes at Lincoln and Omaha theaters.

Omaha Air Force base team socks it to NU in weekend tilt

The University Soccer Club lost its second consecutive Nebraska Soccer League game to an Omaha area squad, falling 3-1 to Offutt Air Force Base Sunday at Omaha.

The Omahan's led 1-0 at the

end of the first half and outscored the locals 2-1 in the last period to win its opener.

HAMMOUGLI SUMMAR, a center forward from Turkey, scored the University's goal midway through the final period, but team coordination crippled the local's attack. Victor Umunna, team captain, said, "Our defense was real good in comparison to last week, but we have to improve our team play," he said.

Umunna said two practices have been scheduled this weekend to prepare the team for its next match on Oct. 13 against Kearney State College.

Women's Physical Education Building at 6 p.m. Friday and 4 p.m. Saturday to practice, Umunna said.

Umunna said the team can use the two-week layoff since several players were injured against Offutt.

Players injuring legs were Summar, who U m u n n a estimated needed at least one week before he would regain top form, and Christopher Nwakolumba, a right halfback from Kenya.

Quotable comments

Colorado's Mike Montier dislocated a finger against Oregon and left the game, but didn't receive much sympathy from a fan in the Colorado student section.

"I came out for that one play, and I heard some guy holler, 'Tuition costs \$691 a semester,' so I hurried back into the game," laughed the offensive tackle.

"Good breaks sometimes come if your people are quick and there," said Kansas Jayhawk Coach Pepper Rodgers. "It was like when I bowl and get a hot hand — I can really go," he said after the Jayhawks clobbered Illinois 47-7.

"Carrying the football gives me a strange sense of inner feeling," says Oklahoma's Eddie Hinton. "I love to get in the open field and make all those guys miss me. Sometimes it's so much fun I actually break into laughter when I fool a tackler."

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Big 8 statistics. The Nebraska Cornhuskers led Big Eight teams in rushing and total defense and passing offense and hold second position in passing defense and scoring defense. Kansas dominates the offensive team categories by leading in rushing, scoring and total offense. Big Eight team statistics: RUSHING DEFENSE, PASSING DEFENSE, TOTAL DEFENSE, RUSHING OFFENSE, PASSING OFFENSE, TOTAL OFFENSE, SCORING OFFENSE.

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