VOLUME 78, NUMBER 6

ST. LOUIS, OCTOBER 9, 1924

TEN CENTS THE COPY

GEOSTS OF BRIBE SCANDAL FAIL

EXPERIENCE PROVES BIG ASSET FO M'GRAW

Senators' Visibly Under Nervous Strain, Make Costly Errors; Bribe Expose Has Not Hurt Attendance.



pers of the Giants are

on, by the narrow margin of one run. but were challenging until the very last Much has oven written, and the scandal mongers have been working far into the

night since O'Connell and Dolan were disinisted from the ranks of Organized Basehall, and it may be that there is still a great deal to come of an interesting nature out of the case. The latest is that | Commissioner Landis has promised to give Loden another interview. The former ceach of the Giants has maintained that | he is innocent of the hatching of the conoplings by which an attempt was made with O'Connell as the agent to get Philadenotes to "lot up" in the game of Sepcombur 57 in order that the Giants might!

Charged by Sand. die, acting with President Heydler of the be in charge. National League, sifted the charges made by Shortstop Sand of the Phile here the A. Comiskey, owner of the White Sox; counts after all. right of October 1. O'Connell made & J. Louis Comiskey and Mrs. Comiskey, Sand was to have received \$500 for not Association player. "bearing down" too hard and then named |

o' both Heyeler and Landis that they had arithing to do with it. The usual much raking followed with Ban Johnson, of the American League, the ball. The injury was regarded as light. thing is certain-had Johnson been pres- Lake. His wife died last year. est. Landis and Heydler would have avoided inneh of the embarrassment which | has grown out of the inferences and vell-

had not been reached by the probers:

Federal Investigation May Follow.

charges, that Brooklyn should have been chase the local franchise from Blake Harsubstituted for New York in the Series, per and Branch Rickey. The plan under Harry Williams' loop, having got first ball seriously. Many tales are being told had hit safely in 31 successive contests. or the games called off, said that he would which Marr is working is to sell each of demand that a federal investigation be the 200 prospective stockholders a \$100 try during the late summer. made of the case. He immediately dis- block of stock. Harper, who is pesident patched his attorney to Washington to of the club, announced some tme age that that Lester Bell, leading hitter of the youngsters a good example, instead of guson was the most successful pitcher see what could be done. Pollowing on it would be sold. It is not known what the heels of the American League execu- price is asked. tive's remarks, came a statement from-Congressman Bloom of this city, who declared that the game should be regulated by federal act. He said: the national chagrin that one of the par- bribery, episode, another interview conticipating teams is involved in a scandal, cerning his ouster. Dolan has maintained convinces me that the time has come a supervisory interest in baseball. Baseball is n matter of interstate commerce. The two major leagues and most of the minor leagues, all larger minor leagues, are interstate affairs. Congress has power to regulate the interstate operation of railroads and the interstate nual draft meeting of the major leagues the cancer was discovered with the argu-"If Congress can do this, it can regulate meeting was scheduled for October 2, but interstate baseball. The sport is a na- was costponed because of the absence of tional pastime and it has taken such a several club representatives who were unhold on our people that the government able to get there. should provide some port of regulation for the good of the sport itself, as well as the protection of the public. Baseball magnates recognized the demand for some sort of superregulation when Judga Lan-

dis was chosen as char, but the game is

too big for one man to control. When

Congress reconvenes I shall introduce a

regulatory bill, and I believe it will be

enacted into a law."

O'Gonnell Still In New York, O'Connell has delayed his departure for his home in California because of the publication of an anonymous letter in a New York newspaper which was supposed to Series. have been written by a Broaday gamwagered \$100,000 that New York would win the National Longue fing by two games and that \$5,000 had been paid over

crippling of the team late in the season, men stationed conveniently to take charge to keep the game free from taint." the letter said, "worried the gamblers if the regulars threw him down. Though about those two games." undoubtedly referring to the last two contests of the tion of the purpose of the delegation that season with the Phillies at the Polo visited him, the four umpires later made Grounds. It concluded that O'Connell was known their dissatisfaction with an \$8,000 only the "goat." ters' insistence that he was only the of reaching an understanding with Landis cil of the major leagues, with Landis and feels that he is not appreciated here. A crowd. "No." said the ticket holder, "I'll "gost," he he has maintained since being as to special ground rules on the first call. President Heydler, of the National League, certain telegraphic message, sent by the give you \$20 for them," said the other; cast out. entd by the missive is not clear. have played better. World's Series ball umpires' demends, difficulties next fall are extent of the investigation which was great year, and the fans hope that he will them for \$50, half of their profit going to year he did not show up at any of the League for two years, passing up the long three games that have been played. In the opening same in Washington the Senalors suffered from stage fright, and in to have shaken hands on a vow never the third game played at the Polo Grounds again to handle a World's Series for less White Sox was cleaned up of its fifthy lie has played good bell this summer, in were selling to the brokers, on the sound

WHITE SOX RETAIN CHICAGO CITY TITLE

Victory Makes Ninth Time American League Team Has Won Honors, Compared to Three for Nationals.

HICAGO, Ill., Oct. 7.—The White Sox are the champions of Chicago for the second straight year, defeating the Cubs in the deciding same of the series yesterday, 5 to 3. It was the sixth game of the series, the Cubs having captured the first and ofth combats solely on the pitching of Grever Alexander. In all the other contests the Sox pitching and attack were superior. The victory made the ninth time the American Leaguers have were the title compared to these been hevering over their beads since the expulsion of Coach Cosy Delan and Substitute Outfielder Jimmy O'Connell, it has not reflected in the playing of the pitching of Grever Alexander. In all the other contests the Sox pitching and attack were superior. The victory made the ainth time the American Leaguers have wen the tule, compared to three for the National League team.

Hollis Thurston and Ted Lyons hurled the Sox to victory. Thurston, swept aside in the terrid Cub attack in the seventh incident. the team in the three World's Series games of the following of the first decided. It is a matter of common behaviored that the Glants have played the score, and Lyons came on to wind the following the first Vic Aldridge, Filmer Jacobs, determined and in short World's Series will. The attendance has come up to all club could not catch the Sox after they club could not catch the Sox after they When they went into the fourth game with the Senators they held a two same to his advantage, having beaten the American League team in the first and third games. They dropped the second third games. They dropped the second encounter, which was played in Washinggot away to a four-run lead in the first

Number of Players From Other Teams Will Join European Tourists. CHICAGO, Ill., Oct. 7.-The players who will make the European tour with the O'Neill, who is looking after the details. The Soy, line-up will include Mostil, Falk, Kamm. Morehart, Clancy, Faber, Robertson, Lyons, Foreman, Ed Walsh, all of the regular Chicago tenm, Ruel and Rice of Washington, and Pirinich of Boston. Johnny Evers will have charge of the squad. The members of the Giants' party will

make ture of their fourth straight pen- | be Groh, Jackson, Frisch, Young, Mousel, Bentley, Jonnard, Nehf, Gowdy, Jennings, away leagues, were given specific instrucall of the regular New York team, and tions to concentrate on pitching talent late Glants and Robins engaged in during the Both O'Conneil and Dolan were sum- McInnis and Stengel of Boston, and Hen- in the season, and these able bush beat- last half of the season, experience counts. carrily expelled when Commissioner Len- line of Philadelphia. John McGraw will era unquestionably have a lot of "leads." Others in the party will include Charles

clean breast of the thing, implicated Do- Harry Grabiner, wife and child, and W. .Announcement, of the personnel of the Frieds, Kally and Young as being familiar tour came as refutation to the reports that row history that the Commissioner ac- would not be undertaken. Dick Einsella, cuitied the latter three of complicity scout for the Giants, has been in Europe when there was no direct evidence against some time arranging for exhibition dates them and they proved to the satisfaction and taking care of other foreign details.

Young Oakland Outfleider Dies. OAKLAND, Cat. Oct. 6 .- Osborne (Os-"road hints that McGraw's influence had slc) Johnson, young outfielder of the lorevailed once again and that all of the cal Coast League team, is dead of blood assignments, next season. After pitching placed will depend entirely upon circumroots in the scardul had not been disclos- poisoning. In a series with Portland in a victory against Philadelphia in the final stances. ed to the public. The fact that President May, the player was struck by a batted series of the last road trip somebody asked . Carson Bighee had a very poor year. third member of the Advisory Council, but finally forced him to go to a hospital, quiry came after he had whiffed four of cal condition than he was in this year, giong with Landis and Haydler, was not He was able to rejoin the team in Au- the Philage apprised of the meeting, or of the charges gust, but returning home September 16, shout to be siged, naturally set many to complained of illness. He was again thinking. Johnson had been snubbed by taken to a hospital where it was found Landle before, but it seemed that he blood poisoning had been diffused throughshould have had a voice in a meeting out out his system. His condition gradually f which such grave charges grew. One grew worse. Jonhson's home was in Sait

> Fans May Buy Fort Smith Club. FOR SMITH, Ark., Oct. 7 .- Runt Marr.

Landle to Inteview Dolan Again, NEW YORK, Oct. 7 .- Commissioner Landis yesterday announced that he would the spring he could hit, but he was un- or two along this line this year, and has sentative of the players, by the President "The nation-wide interest in the World's grant Cozy Dolan, scout for the New Series now in progress, combined with Tork Giants until he was barred in the his heaves would land. that he is innocent of the charge made season, is a fine fielder, and Rickey may when the l'ederal Government should take sgainst him by Jimmy O'Connell, who was find a place for him in 1925. expelled with him. O'Connell incidentally has delayed his departure for his home in teams, naturally was shocked by the scan- may be, it is always better to take string- club their heartiest congratulations on

> Major Draft Meeting Delayed. WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 7 .- The an-

fielded almost flawlessly, and have appeared stronger at bat. So, in the long run, the experience gained in winning the National League pennant four times, and participating in a like number of World's Series, may prove him scrift. Cozy was known as his own too much for the first-time Washington champions. One thing is certain, however, the Senators are never licked. Whoever are the 1925 major league champions and whether there is a base-

ball scandal a year from now, an unusual interest will attach to the next World's Branch Rickey, resurding the scandal, make some demands, when contract sign-An umpire's strike is set, according to that Organized Baseball is clean and will lire of their boss. The letter said that a certain group had been in the wind for a year-since Comwagered \$100,000 that New York would missioner Landis bluntly told the four umon the game as a whole, except that it derive ball this season, but he has inseveral leaders, for next October. It has not tolerate such tactics. pires assigned to the 1923. Series they were will strengthen the public's confidence in curred the displeasure of his employer, not as important to the Series as the low- the men who are responsible for the fu- and it would not be a great surprise if by the club. to a Giant player in the bribe effort. The lin't substitutes, and that he would have ture of the sport. They are determined he and Barney were to have a roal tilt his tirale then was due to his misconstrucdividend between them from a million-dol-

O'Connell seemed heartened by the let- lar gate. They had called for the purpose the third member of the Advisory Coun-Just why O'Connell should feel heart- plon among the arbiters of the majors, and ing. Certainly Mr. Johnson's presence the East on the first or second trip. unless the commission and the club own- would have had the effect of eliminating sroused Cooper's anger, and he has not Getting back to the Series, the Giants or get together this winter and meet the much of the mystery and doubt as to the forgotten the incident. Cooper had a ets from holders for \$21.50, and selling

Before the opening game Umpires Connolly, Klem. Dincen and Quigley are said they seemed over-anxious and errors re- than a fourth of the total of two winning mess by Mr. Johnson, after the skeletons spite of the fact that he was out of it that it was illegal for them to sell withteam players' shares and two losing team had been hidden in the closet, there to be with injuries for a considerable stretch, out a broker's license. The Gients, on the other hand, have players' shares, GOTHAM. | forgotten.

SISLER TO MANAGE BROWNS NEXT YEAR

NEED FOR A WINNER.

Rickey Appears to Be Sittin' Pretty With Several Changes Likely, Grimm, Cooper Youngsters; Bribe Incident Proves Game Cannot Be Manipulated.



George Steler will be manager of the St. Louis Browns again next year—that is if he wants the job. Phil Ball, president of the club, has unbounded faith in George, tikes him personally and takes the slant of the fans. who figure that Sisler did, as well as anybody could have done with the toam, considering the way the pitching as to wast will be done to regenerate the hurling corps, but of course there is a close, hard-fought race. They have been also asking whether all of the boys who fought and then, too, if Sisler makes it strong direction.

There are a number of reasons why the entaints and the persons why the direction.

There are a number of reasons why the ball, have a most popular pennant winners ever known, because they came clean, and the course may be sunk in that the persons why the direction.

There are a number of reasons why the ball, have a most popular pennant winners ever known, because they came clean, and the course may be sunk in that the persons why the ball, have a most popular pennant winners ever known, because they came clean, and the course may be sunk in that the persons why the standard admired fighting manager, and

himself gray with all of the useless flippers who were carried in 1924. well with Tulsa where he was loaned under option, will be back. He has always be at the helm hext apring. Naturally, he ever saw. That is a good statement been a winner in the Western League. Bill wants another chance. He has been of the case, and it is also true that this Chicago White Sox and New York Giants but seems to shrink when he faces the in the midst of a rebuilding process, is a battle between the two most couragebig leaguers, this in view of the fact that the Western is what is known as a "hitters' league"-a loop where the old-timers and youngsters alike thrive on whal-

> American League. Bloodhounds Have Been Busy. representatives of the team in the far- come through this season: Getting them naturally is something else fluence is halpful. Both NoGraw and again, for it's the coin of the realm that Robinson had more older players than had Branch Rickey no doubt has made pleas-

Rhem, the chap from Fort Smith. fast ball and with a little more brushing infield and outfield. It is going to be a off, plus control, it is difficult to reason difficult job to keep him out of a regular how he will be kept away from regular berth next year, but where he will be

best "zip" balls he find seen in a long will pass as a regular. Moore may get his time and that he mixes this with a knuckle his place. ball which resembles a fade-away. The The Pirates would have done better against them in the first inning of the latter, Gonzales said, is most difficult to this year, also, had one of the veterin catch, let alone hit.

Interested in Coast Players. Branch also has something in the fire 1924. with at least one Coast League club, and ed conress that the bottom of the mess manager of the 1924 Fort Smith team of nals will book a pitcher and another playthere is reason to believe that the Cardithe Western Associaton, has launched a er. Scout Charley Barrett has been in drive toward forming a stock company the Coast region for a long time and is Ean Johnson, who felt, in view of the of fans here, with 200 members, to pur- doing a lot of trailing. Rickey, himself, on the twirler himself. He is of a carehas a pretty good line on the players in less nature, and does not take his basehand information on a tour of that coun- of his escapades, as well as those of a

American, Association for 1924, will also violating all rules of discipline, as they against them. In six starts Aleck beat be back with the Cardinals. The young did. infielder played a splendid game at short A stern disciplinarian is apparently, one for Milwaukee all season, as well as to top of the Pirates' greatest needs. Perhaps the batters. When Rickey had him in Manager McKechnie has learned a thing presented to Stanley Harris, as the reprecertain affold and never was sure where come to the conclusion that he will have of the Board of Commissioners of the Dis-Thevenow, whom the Cardinals played achieve success.

St. Louis, with its two major league dal in the ranks of the Giants. The aver- out measures with him right away. age fan, however, puts a broad constructempt and points to the speed with which able leeway, but he sets the limit, and of the people of Washington to have a tion on what happened in the bribery atwill be held tomorrow. Originally the ment that cheaters cannot cheat in base, the boundary is certain to feel the strong our occasions we have copie near this appears to be plenty of business for the ball and get away with it. That seems arm of the managerial anger. to be a logical conclusion, for as "murder | There have been a number of silly storwill out," sc will crookedness. The incident reached closely to many fans because Cozy Dolan was a member ates. One ridiculous yarn had it that

of the Cardinals for several seasons when Barney Dreyfuss was contemplating A Miller Huggins had the team. They recalled that Huggins was tickled pink when the entire team would be missing next ton have no doubt will be accomplished; the club decided to settle with Cozy while spring. his contract had a year to go and cut enemy while here; having little standing with his fellow players because they could not measure his friendship with full sin-

Game Bigger Than Cheaters. "and we all feel it deeply, yet it shows ing time arrives, which may arouse the Some American League partisans here present when the action was taken against anything happens to Grimm, one of the and, when he was given two in a pavillen Dolan and O'Connell. They feel that as best fielding first sackers in the business. Instead, he expressed his disappointment. he should have participated in the hear- president of the club to the manager in and he did. carried out with the usual spectacular dis- | be back. play by the Commissioner. oughness with which the house of the for him to give his best efforts here. them by arresting the ticket holders who

M'KECHNIE HEARS SHOUTING OF MOB

BILL'S WORK, HOWEVER.

and Schmidt Having Axes to Grind With Owner.



There are a number of reasons why the There are several likely looking pros- Buccaneers of 1924 didn't win. Some fans

things, and has let it be known that the went through. managerial position for 1925 is McKechnie's Bill Bayne, the left-hander, who did so if he wants it. This is tantamount to as great a one as some former ones that saying that Wilkinsburg Bill will again could be named, but it is the gamest one which is far from completed. Well Fixed for Future.

ing the apple. It is possible, though, that made up largely of young material, which firmness and brilliance of tried veterans. his stay with Tulsa gave him that some will be benefited by their experiences in thing which he needed for success in the the campaign just closed. As a matter of have opposed, and the locals are glad of fact, the greenness of the material and it and hope they can put their full strength the general lack of poise was largely re- in the field, win or lose. Scouts Monahan and Cahill, as well as sponsible for the failure of the outfit to In a close race, such as the Pirates, Age, carrying with it its standying in-

the local club.

This is not detracting from the worth ing strides toward the ends which he set of Pittsburg's youngsters. Without them. an a the instigntor of the plot by which D. White, former Louisville American out to reach early in 1924-that of build- the outfit would have gotten nowhere. ing up from the ground with a bunch of Right now, Pittsburg is better off, so far live-wire young fellows who will put en- as the future is concerned, then either the Giants, if that is any sign of what thurs and spirit in their work. He the Giants and the Holling will happen. Some of the players lost a Fried, Kally and Young as being familiar tour came as refutation to the reports that thusiasm and spirit in their work. He the Gtants and the Robins with the details of the bribe plan. It is had sained circulation that the unterprise and accumulated applications pitcher butters and the Robins of the bribe plan. It is had sained circulation that the unterprise and accumulated applications pitcher butters. who should make the grade. He is Flint ing along as Catchers Knox, Pitchers Kremer. Yde. Stone, Songer and others. Rhem, while not being a real busky, is Infelders Wright, Barnes, Traynor and big fellow and in some respects gives a Moore, and a bunch of outfielders like hint of Dazzy Vance. He has a dazzling Cuyler. Moore can be used either in the

> Gonzales: "What has he got?" This in- Unless he shows up in better physiand unless he makes an impressive start Gonzales said that Rhem has one of the next spring, there is little doubt that he

pitchers done what was expected of him. Johnny Morrison was the prize "bust" of is His Own Enemy.

After his sensational record of 1923. McKechnie had every right to expect great things of him, but he failed to come through; and the fans blame his downfall few other members of the club, notably high, but they were the most successful We must not overlook the fact either, older men, who should have set the

to-rule with an iron hand, if he hopes to trict of Columbia, who also issued the folat short during the last month of the Allowing any player to feut up is tablishing a dangerous precedent, and is No matter how valuable the rule violator lers extend to the Washington baseball

That is one secret of John McGraw's loan League. les published here recently as to what is youthful and intrepid manager. Stanley going to happen this winter to the Pir-

May Be Some Holdouts. While there is no desire on the part of the club to part with any asset, it is Washington beginning October 4. The city probably true that there will be some of Washington feels much honored that it trouble in signing up some of the men. | will be the scene of the first game of the Waiter Schmidt, Charley, Grimm, and Wil- | Series, and every inhabitant is confident bur Cooper are never easy to sign, and that its team will capture the world's "It is a very regrettable incident," said there are rumors that they are going to championship."

during the next few months.

RALPH S. DAVIS.

SENATOR PLAYERS FALL OFF IN WEIGHT

PITCHING ABOUT ONLY THING HE'LL DREYFUSS SAYS HE'S SATISFIED WITH RUEL, FOR INSTANCE, IS TEN POUNDS UNDER NORMAL FIGURE.

> Hard Campaign, Plus World's Series, Has Had Its Effect on Men; Capital Proud of Griff's Fighters.



versally admired fighting manager, and

There are several likely looking prospects in the cluster of young men recalled from the minors, but in the main it does not look like any of them are Wingards. There is also a possibility that two or more of the deadweight heavers, who hung around all sesson, will be crammed together in one package and traded for one dependable Class AA heaver. It is almost certain that Sisler will not worry attacked with the way McKechnie has run after such strengous campaigns as they after such strenuous campaigns as they

President Griffith says his team is not ous and indomitable teams there are. The Washingtons have the fire and inspiration He ought to have a much better club next of comparative youth and a belief that year than this season, for the Pirates are nothing can stop them, and the Glants the They are the bardest team the Griffs could

> It was stated in this column two weeks ago that, if the three straight pennant limit was ever surpassed. McGraw would do it, and now was his time, aided by his usual resourcefulnes and some soft games. As it turned out, he did even better, as he won with a crippled team in his toughest sories.

The Griffs had a hard road to travel to

Eaton Qualifles as Seer.

get into this World's Series scrap, and lot of weight during the fine pertrapped ry than those who were in the thick of the fight, complained very bitterly that he had spent several years cultivating a bay window, only to lose it all on the last eventful trip. Muddy Ruel, whose normal playing weight is only 145 pounds, lost more than ten pounds of it by continuous work behind the bat, catching the fast pitching of Johnson and Marberry, but is feeling fit to do all the Series work if

The first game in the last series in Boston, when Alex Ferguson beat them and cut their lead to one game, was one of the worst blows to the Griffs, and when the Red Sox started by scoring four runs next day's game, it was a case of "Life's Darkest Moment." and "When a Feller Needs a Friend," but they bucked up and beat the Fohlies to it, and then turned in and cinched the pennant in the third con-

Ferguson Breaks Two Streaks.

When Ferguson beat the Griffmen he broke Walter Johnson's string of victories. after he had won 18 straight games, and The Red Sox may not have finished very team in winning from Johnson, and Ferthem four time, tied once and lost once. The triumph of the team was made a public event, and the key of the city was lowing proclamation: nearly always injurious to club morals, and the citizens thereof, the commission-

winning the baseball pennant in the Amer-

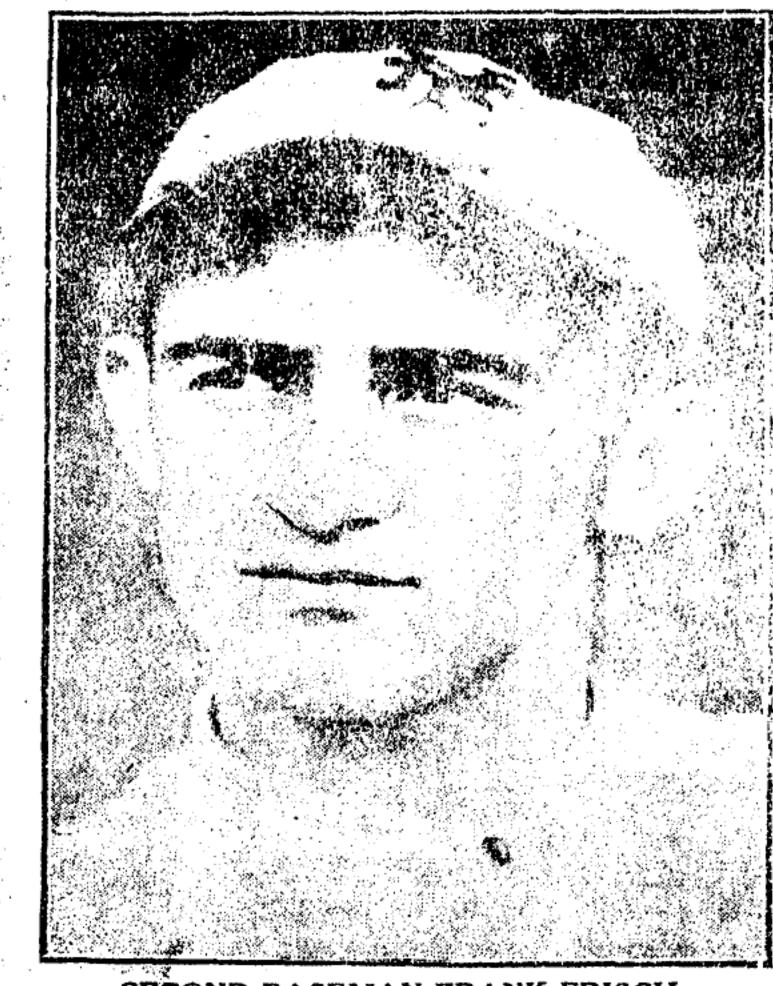
goal. But it remained for this year for the present Washington team. led by its Harris, and the veteran, Clark Griffith, to bring home the coveted flag "This feat is but a forerunner of anwholesale clean-up, and that practically other feat which the citizens of Washingthat is, for the Washington team to vanquish its rival, the New York Glants, in the World's Sories which will be held in

> Rush for Tickets Unparalleled. The rush to obtain tickets for the Series was like a civil war. According to some estimates, as many as 15,000 people were clamoring for them at one time. although they could only be obtained by those holding cards which had been mailed to them over 200,000, applicants for tickets, of l

Ticket speculators did considerable buil-

the government as tax, under a law

REGULAR BUSINESS WITH HIM



SECOND BASEMAN FRANK FRISCH Records of the first three games of the World's Series show that the Giants have

outfielded their Antirican League rivals, but if one is permitted to become a triffe facetious, and still remain within reasonable bounds of truthfulness, it can be said that Captain Frankle Frisch has outfielded the Senators. Anybody who saw the third game of the Series will admit that the second baseman was just about everywhere an ordinary human could be. He scooped them up tothe left of him, dashed to the right of him, and no less than three times scooted far into the outfield to catch drooping flies just out of reach of the outfielders. Singlehanded he choked off the Senators whenever they became dangerous. The Series has been slow in producing outstanding individual performers, but the laurel wreath rests with Frisch for the time being at least. Frisch has been playing in World's Series in all but two years of six he has been with the Giants, and is un experienced big money player. He became a fixture on

McGraw's team in 1919, the year he joined the team, going directly from Fordham college, where he starred in footbell as well as baseball. His general play throughout the 1924 season was a big factor in keeping the Giants on topin the first three games of the current Series Frisch accepted 21 chances without a miss, and got five hits in 12 times at bat, for an average of .440. In the series of 1921 he had a batting mark of .300, while in '22 it was .471, and in '23, .400.

ECONOMY WILL BE STRESSED AT ANNUAL CONFAB OF MINORS

Operating Expenses Are Running Too High and Retrenchment Must Come, According to Views Expressed by Number of Club Owners.



that all leagues and clubs will be urged tween clubs and players.

will be made to get the delegates to contrate on baseball problems. is the lesson that they must take themselves and their game, more seriously. League meetings as well as National As- the International League for a "resular sociation sessions are likely to be devoted

consider. Draft to Get Attention. practice of scouring the open lots, arguing that the developing of the new player series it will even offer to play al! games

is strictly the province of the minor in an International League city. league. They also want the majors to use the draft more than they have been accustomed to do the rest few years. It the best rolley.

it is rianning to make the convention one city can be warmed up a tritle. very much concerned whether or not they as far as negotiations have traveled. will of the minors.

ization" of the minor leagues, but that followers if L'mpires Brown and Suzamers seems too much to look for. He thinks were said to higher leagues this winter. all leagues are running wild in the mat-

PRINCEPIELD, Mass., Oct. 5 .-- | ter of salaries to players and he would given the closest of considera- ties for the violations of them. The new tion at the annual meeting of limits and the new penalties are likely the National Association of to be voted upon, but not the complete re-Minor Beseball Leagues at organization. On the Saturday before the Hartford Conn. the first week | Hartford get-together the National Poard of December. It is contended of Arbitration will nicett in New York to in influential quarters, that the associa- size up the situation and the following tion will be requested to vote on lower weeks it will have cally sessions at Hartsalary limits for the various leagues and ford to handle the routine equabbles beto pay stricter attention to their operat- Several of the leagues will hold their

ing expenses. Retremement is not new annual meetings in the convention city hy any means, but it will be urged with and many of them will have special meetpiore emphasis than own hefore at Hart- lings between now and December to get a league contiment on the marters likely Delegates to the convention this year to be taken up at Hartford. The Eastern are to be impressed with the fact that League has already called a meeting of the association wants the convention to the directors to find out the attitude on be a real business meeting and not a re- certain matters. Its annual meeting will union. Social features are to be eliminat- be held at Waterbury, the ronnant city. "A Proclamation: On behalf of the ed as far as possible and every attempt probably after the Hartford convention. the Eastern League have disposed of The past reason taught the minors sev- the champions of the International League eral lessons and not the least important in sets of games three years running, the Eastern League will vote at its annual meeting to formally issue a challenge to

series" of four in seven games between more to the business at hand and there the respective pennant winners every fall. .Waterbury recently beat Rallimore three leagues individually and as a whole to straight; adding to the giories won by Hartford last year and by New Haven in 1922 over the Orioles. The most three The draft, the optional agreement play- | years all games with the International er, the player and salary limits, the re- League champions have been played in lations between the minors, and the ma- Eastern League territory. The Plastern jors and all such topics, will be on the League will urge that this be a real se-Hartford program. Those favoring the ries the next time, with the permant draft are stronger than ever for it, though cities splitting the number of garnes. The they are opposed to the wholesale pick - Eastern League is chesty proudly to deing of of sandlot players by the majors, clare that "there is no difference between-They want the majors to let up on the the grade of ball between the leadurs" and if the International turns down the

Worcester May Drop Out. There has been much discussion regarding possible changes in the Eastern. a contended that opposition to the draft League circuit for next season. It is heamong the AA leagues has weakened lieved Worcester will withdraw but that greatly and that the Infernational League all the other members will stick. Portis about ready to accept conscription as land. Me., Providence and Troy, have already been auggested to replace Wornester The Eastern League feels flattered in with the chances favoring Providence if peing given the national convention and sentiment for Eastern League ball in that With only 37,000 seats to distribute to of the best ever. The league has started It has also been reported that the preparing for the reception of the base- Pridgeport Club may change hands, but Everett Barnes has been groomed to course many had to be disappointed, even ball more something Owner Timothy J. Sullivan of Springfield, believe that it would have been to the take the first sack berth, if Grimm va- including some who had made application definite in the way of announcements to has declared he is not ready to quit baseadvantage of the game had President Ban cates it. However, let it be said that the a month or so ago, In one case, a man spring. So far as known now there will ball just yet. Still he may dispose of his Johnson of the American League been fans are likely to how! loud and long if filed an early request for two box seats, be no representatives of the majors at club before spring comes. A Bridgeport Hartford, and after the experience at Chin man has offered him what is considered

caso last season the small fellows; are not by some a "good price," but that is about get a visit from the big leagues. They Peter J. McLaughlin, of the Fartern feel they were snubhed at Chicago, and League umpire staff, was tried out by the will not ment in a big league city again National League in Boston the last week for some time. Commissioner Landis, may of the season. He did so well he may be take in the sessions. Though the minors with the big show next season. Mediscussions and so there is no particular to umpire twilight games, and college As for Schmidt, personald enmity be- which prevented their being penalized, reason to look for him at Hartford other games in Esstern New England. He lize The fans have not forgotten the thor- tween him and Dreyfuss makes it hard The authorities soon found a way to check than that he may want to keep the good been on the league's suspended list l'ut was recently restored to good standing. One man wants a "complete reorgan- It would be no surprise to Eastern Lyague." COLLINS

Defense Strikes Blue Note In Redbirds' Spring Sonata

By NEAL RUSSO

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—As expected, pitching was the Cardinals' long suit as they headed into the 1973 season.

The most pleasant developments in a spring training that was a tremendous change from the shaky 1972 Florida camp included the emergence of two pitchers. One was somewhat of a veteran, starter Alan Foster. The other was a virtual unknown, lefthanded reliever John Andrews.

Foster and Andrews, who were not on the varsity roster, shared surprise-of-the-spring honors with Ray Busse, who quickly took charge of the shortstop sweepstakes.

Foster and Andrews survived spirited competition for the few berths open on a pitching staff that figured to include the Big Four of Bob Gibson, Rick Wise, Reggie Cleveland and Scipio Spinks. Add Al Santorini, Diego Segui and returnee Wayne Granger.

THAT MEANT A sort of tournament. Victims of the numbers game were Rick Folkers and Mike Nagy. Folkers, another southpaw fireman, didn't allow an earned run in nine spring innings, but he happened to have options left and was sent out.

Nagy had an ERA of 0.64, but he was dealt to the Rangers because the Cardinals decided to hang onto Jim Bibby, who throws harder than Nagy. Both Nagy and Bibby had run out of options.

Foster did not allow an earned run until his fifth and last appearance of the spring. Cleveland was the most effective hurler in the play-for-fun games with six excellent outings and an ERA of 0.50. Reggie walked only five and struck out 16 in 36 innings. He clearly showed the benefit of a successful winter in Venezuela.

GRANGER INDICATED strongly that he was ready to return to his glory days as a Redleg with a 0.56 ERA for nine appearances.

Ace Gibson was set back by a foot injury, but he rebounded to earn another opening-day start. Wise was excellent except for his last time out of the starting block. Spinks was erratic in his early out-

ing, partly because he hadn't been in competition since last July 4, when he suffered a knee injury, but Scipio finished strong in Florida.

Andrews was not scored upon until his ninth and last chance at camp. Santorini appeared ready for another dual role of relief and spot starting. And Segui was the same old Segui—a steady performer with a most baffling forkball.

THERE WAS excellent hitting by Ted Simmons, the club leader with .349. Tim McCarver, an excellent addition, hit the ball well, especially in the early weeks. Ken Reitz, a good-fielding third baseman, closed fast after missing eight days because of chicken pox. And Jose Cruz, appearing more mature, not only hit the ball well (.308) but also displayed some of the center field skills he showed when he came up in 1971.

Busse, the big hope at shortstop, tailed off at bat late in spring training, but still wound up as the club RBI leader with 11. An 0-for-18 swoon pulled him down to a final .254.

Joe Torre finished with .212, but nobody was worrying about him. Nor was there concern over Lou Brock's .225 or Ted Sizemore's .203.

BUT MANAGER Red Schoendienst did fret some about the leaky defense, which finally seemed to tighten in the last few games in Florida. And he was a bit concerned about the batting slump in the last 10 days. He found it hard to believe that the Birds hit only three home runs in spring training. The Pirates' Bob Robertson hit that many in one game-against the Cardinals.

Because of the questionable offense, Red had to make sure he put his best defensive lineup on the field. That meant Torre would have to play first base and Reitz third—at least at the beginning. McCarver, who did pretty well making the transition from catcher to first baseman, would have to head up a bench that shaped up as an improvement over the 1972 edi-

THE MAJOR disappointments

to Schoendienst were Bernie Carbo and Luis Melendez. Neither hit well in Florida and Carbo, who earned the right field job last year, was having trouble in the field, too. Schoendienst, shaking his head, decided to platoon the pair at the outset with the offer of the regular job to whoever could get hot at the plate.

Also disappointing, especially in view of the over-all outfield situation, was the shoulder injury that knocked hot prospect Bake McBride out of virtually all of spring training. McBride was expected to make a strong bid as an extra outfielder.

That role appeared to fall into the hands of Dwain Anderson, an infielder who quickly adapted himself to all three outfield positions.

BACKING UP McCarver, the only spare catcher, on the bench were, in addition to Anderson and whichever platooned outfielder wasn't in the game, Ed Crosby, Mike Tyson, Bill Stein and Bobby Fenwick.

Busse and Cruz appeared to be the keys to the fortunes of the '73 Redbirds, a much more relaxed and confident crew than the '72 entry.

Redbird Chirps: Segui was called to Miami late in spring training because his father had suffered a heart attack. . . . Harry Mitauer of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat rates as the champion cigar smoker among the baseball scribes. Mitauer chomps on 20 stogies a day. . . The Cardinals picked up Mike Thompson, a righthanded pitcher, from the Rangers in the swap for Nagy. That transaction also served to cancel the player owed to the Cardinals for pitcher Lance Clemons. . . . The Cardinals promoted Paul Fauks from director of sales to administrative assistant in the farm and scouting departments. Joe Cunningham, the ex-Cardinal first baseman-outfielder who had been director of special projects, moved into Fauks' job. . . . The Redbirds, 6-14 in spring training last year, finished at 13-11 this time, including 8-3 against National League clubs.





Bernie Carbo, Luis Melendez . . . Slow Starters.



BROEG & BASEBALL

By BOB BROEG

Sisler's Standards Were Sky-High

ST. LOUIS, Mo.-Researching "Super Stars of Baseball," the series of 40 player profiles published by The Sporting News and then put in book form, I came upon a brow-raising comment in an interview with George Sisler.

I'd been impressed and said something to the effect that even though an infection had caused temporarily blindness and forced George to miss the entire 1923 season, he had rebounded remarkably. Why, he'd had 200 hits three times thereafter and batted .326, .327 and .345.

A polite man, Sisler interrupted impatiently and said scornfully, "I didn't consider that real good hitting."

Hitters who today would want the Taj Mahal for those averages probably couldn't understand The Sizzler's sky-high standards. As the Christian Science practitioner said in the course of memorial services for Sisler the other day, Branch Rickey's favorite player was modest. But he also had, as the Mahatma wrote in "The American Diamond," a trait Rickey referred to as "justifiable ego."

One time George Sisler, Jr., president of the International League and one of the three baseball sons of whom the super star could be proud, sat alone with his father in the quiet of a late summer evening on a front porch and asked:

"Just between us, Dad, what pitcher or pitchers really gave you

trouble?"

There was silence. George Jr. sensed that the old man was studiously reviewing his career, trying to come up with a name or two. Finally, George, Sr. gave up trying.

"I was like (Rogers) Hornsby," he said, "because I honestly felt sorry for the pitcher. The pitcher was out there for me to hit. I didn't look for anything except the ball."

And, oh, even after illness had robbed him prematurely of his tremendous speed and had aged him early athletically, he still could hit. At 37, bowing out after 14 full seasons in which he'd failed to bat over .300 just once in a complete go-round, he still batted .309 at Boston with the Braves in 1930.

Even .420 Wasn't His Best

But to Sisler, that wasn't hitting. The man's own standards were so high that he didn't even regard his .420 in 1922, the season he was named Most Valuable Player, as his best year.

To Gorgeous George, his best came two years earlier when he was 27. Playing every inning for the old St. Louis Browns that 154-game season in 1920, Sisler had the incredible total of 257 hits, still the major league high.

Batting .407, he went hitless in only 23 games all season. Only twice did he fail to get a hit for two successive games. He collected 49 doubles, 18 triples and, as he liked to point out, 19 home runs, a total second only to Babe Ruth's 54. He scored 137 runs, drove in 122 more and stole 42 bases.

Sister could leg out an infield hit or bunt and he could push and slash, too, but he resented the suggestion that he was a Punch and Judy hitter. When he pulled his heavy (42-ounce) hickory with a choked grip, he hit hard.

Frank Frisch, himself a great all-round player, singled out Babe Ruth and George Sisler as the two greatest of extremes, the slugger and the scientific player. Of Sisler before his own death recently, Frisch said: "He was poetry in motion, the perfect player."

A lefthanded pitcher good enough to beat his own idol, Walter Johnson, in two low-run duels as a rookie in 1915, Sisler became an extremely graceful first baseman, perhaps second only to Hal Chase, if you'd care to start an argument.

He could do the incredible things defensively. Rickey, for whom he played at the University of Michigan and with the Browns, loved to remember Sisler's rapid reaction in sensing a squeeze by Washington, flashing in to grab the bunt off Roger Peckinpaugh's bat, tag the batter and then zip the ball to catcher Hank Severeid in time to double Joe Judge at the plate.

"He did it in one motion, by Judas Priest, like a magician whose hand was quicker than the eye," said Rickey, who topped that one with this:

Ever hear about the time Sisler fielded a ground ball and flipped it softly toward first base only to find that the pitcher wasn't covering the bag? Before you could say George Harold Sisler, The Sizzler had leaped forward, so help Branch Rickey's bushy eyebrows, and caught his own throw on the bag for a putout.

Pleasant, Aloof, Modest and Sober

Yesterday or today, George Sisler would be classified as a different breed of cat. He was pleasant but aloof, a modest, sober man who appeared to smile a lot because he squinted and bared his teeth in concentration during his playing days. In later years, he wore a grimace of pain from arthritis when he struggled into St. Louis' Busch Memorial Stadium to continue scouting for, ironically, the club that lost him in 1915—Pittsburgh.

If the old National Commission had upheld the Pirates' claim to a prior contract in 1915—and the Buccos' Barney Dreyfuss never spoke again to the man who cast the deciding vote, Cincinnati's Garry Herrmann-Pittsburgh no doubt would have won more pennants.

Sisler, genteel, had class. Some still can't believe that he once slugged an obscene teammate (Bob Groom) or slapped an umpire (George Hildebrand) and drew a minimal suspension only because his record was exemplary.

Personally, in conversation, I found Sisler touchy in comparisons between the present and the past, impressed by pitching development and totally unimpressed by what he considered lack of studious hitting and batting concentration.

He was also a straight arrow when, as a member of the Hall of Fame's Committee on Veterans, I'd ask him for a confidential appraisal or evaluation of a player or a comparison between two performers with whom he was infinitely more familiar than I. He answered succinctly, frankly and fairly. I'll miss his wisdom and his counsel.

If he swore, I never heard it. He didn't smoke or drink, and, of course, there's the story about the time W. C. Fields, who admired him so much as a ballplayer, invited him backstage, lavished him with praise and offered George a drink of the best Prohibition booze.

When Sisler declined with thanks and said he didn't drink, W. C. sighed his famous Fieldian sigh and in the familiar nasal tenor now imitated widely in television commercials and variety shows, the showman whined philosophically:

"Ah, well, not even the perfect ballplayer can have everything."

The Sporting News

THE INTERNATIONAL SPORTS WEEKLY
Trade Mark Registered
Founded March 17, 1886

Published by

The Sporting News, 1212 N. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63166—AC 314 997-7111

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Subscription Price \$15 a Year

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Vol. 175 APRIL 14, 1973 No. 14

Six Months \$8.00

Three Months \$4.00 .

SISLER—A RUGGED GENTLEMAN

George Sisler was at the peak of his game in the early 1920s, the beginning of an era often dubbed the Golden Age of Sports. Sisler helped make it so. He was a contemporary of Babe Ruth, whose homerun bat and magnetic personality generally are credited with rescuing baseball from eclipse after the 1919 Black Sox scandal.

Nobody hit the ball farther than Ruth, and no one hit it more consistently than Sisler. Like Ruth, Sisler came on the baseball scene as a pitcher of quality, and again like Ruth, Sisler reached the heights with his bat. Those were just about the only similarities in the careers of these two baseball giants—Ruth the carouser, crowd pleaser, instinctive athlete and product of the Baltimore waterfront; Sisler the college graduate, thinker, student of baseball and quiet gentleman.

Though Sisler was recognized as a superb hitter and a first baseman of extraordinary skills, he should be remembered above all as a model athlete and exemplary man, on the field and off it. Branch Rickey, the master talent-molder, discovered Sisler at the University of Michigan and brought him to the big leagues with the St. Louis Browns in 1915. Thirty-five years later, after developing countless stars, Rickey was asked to name his all-time favorite player. The Mahatma's eloquence surfaced at once with this appraisal:

"My favorite player is George Sisler, and I choose him because, in addition to his marvelous talents as a player, he has such high qualifications as a man. From the time he came to me from the University of Michigan until this very moment, he has never criticized a teammate and never criticized an opponent. He was always a close observer of every play, every pitch. He was always thinking. He was a student of the game and devoted to his profession.

"And don't get the idea because I said George never was critical that he wasn't dead game. I remember shortly after Sisler joined the Browns, there was an overthrow and George chased the ball. Between innings, one of my players, I think it was Bob Groom, yelled at George, something to the effect that he was a so-and-so college player, and next time on an overthrow to run harder. George never said a word, but he got up and floored Groom with one punch. Groom got up, moved to another seat on the bench and nobody bothered Sisler any more.

"Yes sir, George would fight at the drop of a hat, yet he was a perfect gentleman."

American League pitchers probably never thought of Sisler as a gentleman. In 1920, he belted them for 257 hits, still an all-time record, while batting .407. Two years later, he racked up 246 hits and batted .420, a figure not even the great Ty Cobb ever matched. Sisler himself might have exceeded it had he not been felled by a sinus infection the following year. Stricken at the zenith of his career, he played eight more years in the majors, but never approached those heights again. Neither did he ever bemoan his misfortunes.

When Sisler died March 26 at the age of 80, he left a legacy of which baseball can be proud. Some say baseball could use more "colorful characters" of days gone by. Maybe so, but these days it's reassuring to know we've also had in our midst some solid citizens, of whom George Sisler was a prime example.

AFFLUENCY BREEDS INDIFFERENCE

A contract is a contract, says the National Basketball Association players' union. As a result of the players' stand, the top team in the NBA's Western Conference was determined by a coin flip instead of the anticipated one-game playoff. The Milwaukee Bucks, who tied with the Los Angeles Lakers for the best record in the West, won the toss. That gave the Bucks the right to play the Golden State Warriors, lowest ranking Western qualifier, in the first round. The Lakers had to face the higher-finishing Chicago Bulls in round one.

The top team in each conference gets \$30,000, the runnerup \$20,000. The difference of \$10,000 apparently wasn't enough to fire the competitive spirit of some players. Their association pointed out that the players' pact with the league calls for 82 regular-season games, no more. That squelched plans for a playoff. The Lakers and Bucks split first and second money, \$25,000 apiece.

NBA officials apparently had not considered the possibility of player balkiness. Their response was a coin flip, to which the players readily agreed. In our opinion, this is not the ideal way to determine a conference champ. If the players refuse to budge on the matter in future dickering, there are better ways to determine the top finisher. A comparison of the deadlocked teams' records against each other would be a better gauge than mere chance.

Milwaukee players blamed the Lakers for the coin flip. Laker Coach Bill Sharman said his players wanted to play the game "but they didn't want to set a precedent. Next year there might have been a decision to have a best-of-three playoff," Sharman said. "But it was the player representatives who made the final decision."

In any event, the episode reflects the degree of affluence attained by pro basketball players. Granted that the money difference wasn't significant for today's tycoon-athletes, especially when they knew they could get a 50-50 split without playing, they may have overlooked public reaction to their indifference. Fans expect highly paid pros to be competitors, even if only pride and prestige are on the line. Indifference can afflict spectators when they detect that malady among the players.



we believe...

By C. C. JOHNSON SPINK Editor and Publisher

Powerful Effect of Sports

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Television is unparalleled for its spectacular coverage of sports events, but the tube's images often make a greater impression on the memory than the words that are spoken to go with the pictures.

We watched the "Gillette Cavalcade of Champions" on NBC-TV the other night and, in case you have forgotten them, we want to quote from Bob Hope's closing remarks as the master of ceremonies.

"Ever since Dave threw his historic beanball at mighty Goliath and confounded the Phillistine experts," Hope said, "the world has been fascinated by athletic achievements . . . running faster, throwing farther, jumping higher, than the next fellow.

"TODAY, the super stars of sports come from every corner of the world. Pele, the undisputed king of world soccer, is from Brazil. The brilliant Rod Laver is carrying on Australia's great tennis tradition. From the Soviet Union came Valery Borzov, the world's fastest human.

"Kip Keino of Kenya is a bright example of the vast store of athletic talent just beginning to surface in the emerging nations of Africa. And, of course, Jack Nicklaus and Mark Spitz lead the world in their specialties

"The simple game of Ping Pong was the catalyst that triggered the first thaw in relations between us and the Peoples Republic of China and ended 20 years of mutual hostility and suspicion. An 85-pound bundle of talent, grace and determination named Olga Korbut won the hearts of the world in Munich. In just a few days, she did much to humanize the image of Russia which had for so long been cold and forbidding.

"Such is the power of sports."

MOST OF ALL, we believe, sports have the power to influence the attitudes and actions of millions of young people who watch and hear and read about our stars of sports and games. Unfortunately, that influence always isn't good.

We thought about the arrogance and ill manners of Bobby Fischer, the world chess champion . . . the wife-swapping of Fritz Peterson and Mike Kekich of the Yankees . . . the drug involvement of a few players in pro football . . . the temper tantrums of some tennis types . . . and the brutality of a hockey player like Steve Durbano of the Blues, who used his stick to hit a taunting trainer in the face. Are they, through sports, to set an example for our youth?

And we thought about Bill Walton of UCLA, who had demolished Memphis State in the final of the NCAA basketball tournament. We were at the game. There's no question about Walton's dominating talents, but for us, his head-shaking disagreement with some of the calls of the referees flawed what was almost a perfect performance. After the game, he brushed off the sportswriters who tried to interview him in the dressing room.

"It's just his way of doing things," Coach John Wooden said in explanation of Walton's behavior. "I think the boy has a right to his own life style."

WALTON HIMSELF said, "My life as No. 32 for UCLA has ended for this season. I'm now Bill Walton, just me, not Bill Walton, the basketball player. I don't want to talk about basketball. I don't want to talk to reporters."

Walton has every right to expect some privacy, now that his season is over, but just for a few minutes he should have realized that the writers were not there on a personal mission. They were there representing the fans who saw Walton in all his glory in the game and had questions in their minds about his injury, his reaction to UCLA's seventh straight championship and his future plans.

Perhaps it's just too much to expect a college player to respond with judgment to the pressure of being a national hero. But Walton should realize that his petulance on the court and his brusqueness in the dressing room could affect the life style of young players all over the country. The little fellow down the street who is trying to play like Walton may also copy his attitude toward the referees and the press. We have enough prima donnas in sports without creating a lot more of them.

addie's



atoms

BY BOB ADDIE

Shula Practices Humility

WASHINGTON, D. C.-Don Shula, coach of the Miami Dolphins, says there is no such thing as complete paradise-even for a football coach who has won the Super Bowl and has pulled off the first grand-slam in the history of the National Football League.

"I still get letters," says Shula, "bawling me out for using Mercury Morris instead of Jim Kiick and vice versa. But, in a way, I don't mind. It really gives a man humility to remember that he can never get so high that somebody can't reach him with a rock. I haven't had much time to rest on my laurels because we have the game coming up with the College All-Stars and then the folks in Miami will have plenty of chance to judge us for the 1973 season because we have four preseason games at home."

Shula was given a dinner party by an old friend, Rep. William Stanton, who comes from Don's home town, Painesville, O. The bash was in Washington and it resembled a congressional caucus because among those on hand were Congressmen Jack Kemp, Silvio Conte, Gerald Ford and Tip O'Neill, along with Sen. Peter H. Dominick of Colorado. Shula once worked as an automobile salesman for Stanton before the latter was elected to Congress.

GEORGE ALLEN, coach of the Washington Redskins, says he doubts there will ever be another undefeated team in the NFL. "The Dolphins' tremendous achievement will be more significant as the years go by," says Allen. "The way the league is now, with such tremendous talent, it doesn't seem likely any team ever will go unbeaten again."

There are still many people closely associated with baseball who have no protection against job loss and it wouldn't be a bad idea if Marvin Miller tried to do something for them. I am talking about the traveling secretaries, publicity directors and the equipment men, most of whom put in long service with the ball clubs. Miller has said: "Anyone with continuous service should be protected." True. It would seem that the players' association would take in some of these people and broaden their pension base.

The National Football League Players Association recently reported that there are 763 retired players vested in the retirement plan. But, the group points out, there are only six players since 1959 who have retired with more than 10 years of NFL play. The attrition rate in football is tremendous. For instance, of the 1,295 players in the NFL in 1971, only 34 percent

were eligible for the pension fund, which carries a mimimum of five years for retirement. And of the 763 retired players on the rolls now, over 36 percent are in the five-year class.

THERE ARE NINE fillies nominated for the Kentucky Derby May 5, something of a record considering that only one filly, Regret (1915), ever won the Derby. Secretariat is the big favorite, but there seems to be considerable sentiment for Shecky Greene, a colt named for the night club comedian.

Among those who will pay a nostalgic visit to Yankee Stadium this month is John Horgan, who is a special assistant to the president of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co. in Washington. Horgan was a batboy in 1923 when the House That Ruth Built was opened and he has many fond memories of the Babe himself. "Before every game," Horgan reports, "the Babe would get hungry and he would send me out for two or three and sometimes six hotdogs."

Horgan also worked as a batboy at the old Polo Grounds when John McGraw managed the Giants. "My principal errand for McGraw," Horgan remembers, "was to find out who won what race. He and Rogers Hornsby, who played for the Giants one year in 1927, had me running back and forth to the old clubhouse which was in center field. If their horses won, I would wave a white sweatshirt. If they lost, I waved a red sweatshirt which McGraw kept especially for that purpose. Both McGraw and Hornsby were crazy about the horses. I don't think Ruth ever made a bet outside of the track in his life."

I SEE WHERE the Milwaukee Brewers obviously don't expect to have much of a ball club. The proof is that the Brewers are going back to all sorts of promotional stunts like flagpole sitters and beauty and personality contests to take the fans' minds off the business at hand—the baseball team. Bill Veeck always said that these gimmicks were great, but there had to come the day of reckoning when the vaudeville show had to end and the fans got what they were paying for—a winning team.

Traveling secretary Donald Davidson of the Braves, whose biography, written with Altanta's Jesse Outlar, now is in paperback as a Bantam book, suddenly has been discovered by the banquet circuit. Everybody in baseball, of course, had known and loved the little man for years, but Donald never had too much public exposure—except for his abortive attempts to make himself a public address announcer.

Hall of Famer Sisler, a Master Hitter, Dies

GEORGE H. SISLER, one of baseball's all-time great hitters and a member of the Hall of Fame, died in St. Louis March 26 after a brief illness.

The 80-year-old Sisler had been in declining health for several years, but still maintained an active interest in sports and frequently attended Cardinal games.

Sisler spent 16 years in the maiors, 13 of them with the Browns, and was a premier first baseman. Some called him the best ever to play the position.

EVERYTHING he did, he did well. He twice hit more than .400 and had a lifetime average of .340. He was a superb base stealer and a graceful and sparkling fielder.

"George Sisler," said Branch Rickey some years ago, "was the smartest hitter who ever lived. He never stopped thinking. And in the field he was the picture player, the acme of grace and fluency."

It was Rickey who brought Sisler

into the majors and touched off an uproar that helped to change baseball's administrative structure.

Rickey coached Sisler at the University of Michigan and signed him for the Browns after he graduated in 1915. But the Pirates claimed they had the rights to Sis-

IT SEEMED that Sisler, when he was 17, personally signed a contract with Akron's minor league team, but never played a game. Akron sold his contract to Columbus and Columbus peddled it to the Pirates.

Barney Dreyfuss, owner of the Pirates, decided to fight and took the matter to the old National Commission, which then ruled baseball. The commission was composed of the two league presidents-John Tener of the National and Ban Johnson of the American -and Garry Herrmann, president of the Reds.

Herrmann acted as chairman

and cast the deciding vote-in the Browns' favor-when the two league presidents voted for their respective teams.

Dreyfuss was incensed, especially with Herrmann, and began a one-man crusade against the commission. His moment of triumph came five years later when the commission was abolished and Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis was made czar.

SISLER ALWAYS believed the Browns had rights to him.

"I was a minor when I signed with Akron," Sisler said. "I didn't receive a penny and neither my mother nor my father signed the agreement. In fact, the first time I was given money was when the Browns signed me."

Sisler, a lefthander, had been primarily a pitcher in college. He was said to have won 50 games and lost none.

In his first year with the Browns, 1915, he pitched in 15 games and had a 4-4 record, including a victory over Walter Johnson. But his bat was so valuable that soon he was playing first base full time and moving toward greatness.

HE HIT .407 in 1920 and .420 in 1922, the year the rag-tag Browns almost won the pennant. The .420 mark was the third highest in the modern majors, surpassed only by Nap Lajoie's .422 in 1901 and Rogers Hornsby's .424 in 1924.

During his .420 season, he began to have eye trouble.

"I didn't quite realize what was happening," said Sisler, "until one day when I was driving I thought I saw two cars in the other lane. There was only one and I knew something was drastically wrong."

It was found that Sisler had a sinus condition that was impairing his vision and he sat out the entire 1923 season. Many thought his career was at an end.

But he came back in 1924, played in all but one of the Browns' games, and hit a solid .305. The next year he batted .345, but he wasn't the same player. Something of the sharpness was gone.

SISLER PLAYED in an era of great players, men like Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth and Hornsby. And since the Browns were usually flirting with the second division, he wasn't accorded all the public recognition he deserved.

 He also was a quiet and reserved man, far better educated than most of his teammates. He had earned a degree in mechanical engineering. He seldom argued with umpires and profanity was not part of his vocabulary.

His peers held him in high esteem.

"Sisler could do everything," Cobb once said. "He could hit, run and throw and he wasn't a bad pitcher, either."

Although he weighed only 170 and was a little over 5-10, he swung a 42-ounce bat. He wasn't a longball hitter, but on five occasions he had more than 10 homers in an era when the dead ball was in use. He had 100 homers as a career total.

HE WAS SWIFT and certain as a runner and many of the 2,812 hits he made could be attributed to his speed. He led the American League in stolen bases four times.

In 1922, the year he hit .420, he collected 246 hits and stole 51 bases. "That year he was the greatest ballplayer who ever lived," Rickey said.

During that season, Sisler hit safely in 41 consecutive games. breaking by one the modern record set 11 years earlier by Cobb. Joe DiMaggio shattered Sisler's mark in 1941 when he hit safely in 56

straight contests. Sisler also set other records, one of which still stands. It's the modern major league mark of 257 hits in one season, established during the 1920 campaign.

AS FOR HIMSELF, Sisler said

he thought he was a better hitter in 1920 than he was in 1922.

"I was meeting the ball better," Sister said. "The averages don't always tell the whole truth."

Although most of his teammates liked him, some thought Sisler was cold and aloof. But he really was an introvert in many respects and his cultural tastes generally were different.

He had only one fight during his career and it was a classic.

DURING HIS early days with the Browns, he reached for a high throw and missed it and by the time he retrieved the ball the runner was at second.

When he returned to the dugout, pitcher Bob Groom who was losing, cut loose on Sisler.

"Listen, college boy," shouted Groom, "you run harder for those balls. Where the hell do you think you are?"

The mild-mannered Sisler was shocked. No one had ever talked to him like that before and there was plenty of profanity in Groom's remarks. ·

THE BLOOD drained from Sisler's face as he walked over to Groom and decked him with a hard left to the jaw. After that, no one ever thought Sisler wasn't doing his best.

Rickey had made no secret of the fact Sisler was his all-time favorite player. And Sisler returned the respect. He would refer to his old

(Continued on Page 70, Column 1)



TWO GREAT HITTERS, Babe Ruth (left) and George Sisler, meet during their prime. Ruth was the home-run hero of the Yanks and Sisler was a batting star of the old Browns.

A Regal Record

GEORGE HAROLD (GORGEOUS GEORGE) SISLER

Hit safely in 41 consecutive games—July 27 through September 17, 1922; named Most Valuable Player, American League, 1922; holds major league record for most base-hits, season—257 in 1920; led American League in stolen bases, 1918, 1921, 1922 and 1927. Manager, St. Louis Browns, 1924-25-26; manager, Shreveport-Tyler, Texas League, 1932; scout, Brooklyn Dodgers, 1943; scout, Newport News, Piedmont League, 1945; scout, Brooklyn Dodgers, 1946 through 1950; scout, Pittsburgh Pirates, 1951 through 1956; batting instructor, Pittsburgh, 1956-61; scout, Pittsburgh, 1962 to date.

| | | | _ | | | | | | | | | | _ | _ | |
|---------------------|----------|-------|------|------|-------|------|----------------|------|-----|-------|---------|--------|--------------|-----|-------|
| Year Club | Leagu | e Por | L G | . AI | 3. B | L B | L 32E | 3B | . ш | t. RE | II. B./ | l. PO. | . A . | E. | F.A. |
| 1915-St. Louis | Amer | P-1-0 | 81 | 274 | 28 | 78 | 10 | 2 | 3 | 29 | .285 | 413 | 35 | 7 | .985 |
| 1916 St Louis | A | 1 2 2 | 187 | 580 | | 177 | 31 | 11 | 7 | 74 | .305 | 1493 | 86 | *24 | .965 |
| 1916-St. Louis | . Amer | 1-2-0 | 151 | | | 211 | ** | 11 | 3 | - 22 | وباور | | | -24 | ,503 |
| 1917-St. Louis | Amer. | O-1B | 135 | 539 | 60 | 190 | 30 | 9 | - 2 | 55 | .353 | 1384 | 101 | •22 | .985 |
| 1918-St. Louis | Amer | 1B | 114 | 452 | 69 | 154 | 21 30 21 | 8 | 2 | • 45 | .341 | 1244 | 97 | 13 | .990 |
| 1919 St. Louis | | îñ | 132 | 511 | 96 | 180 | 31 | 15 | 10 | 83 | 352 | 1249 | | 13 | .991 |
| TOTAL LATERS | Amer. | | | | | | | 18 | | | | | | | |
| 1920-St. Louis | _Amer. | . 1B | -154 | *631 | 137 | *257 | 49 | | 19 | 122 | | 1477 | *140 | 16 | .990 |
| 1931-St. Louis | Amer. | . 1B | 138 | 582 | 125 | 216 | 38 | 18 | 11 | 104 | .371 | 1267 | 108 | 10 | .993 |
| 1922-St. Louis | Amer | ΪĒ | 142 | 586 | | | 42 | *18 | 8 | 105 | *.420 | 1293 | *125 | 17 | .966 |
| 1099 CA Tavela | | 1.0 | | - | | | | with | _ | | uble) | | | | |
| 1923 St. Louis | Amer, | | | | | | (Out | | eye | | | | | | |
| 1924 St. Louis | Amer | . 18 | 151 | 636 | 94 | 194 | 27 | 10 | 9 | 74 | ,305 | | *112 | *23 | .964 |
| 1925-St. Louis | Amer | 18 | 150 | 649 | 100 | 224 | 21 | 15 | 12 | 105 | .345 | 1343 | *131 | *26 | .983 |
| 1926-St. Louis | A | ίĔ | 150 | 613 | 78 | 178 | 21 | 12 | 7 | 71 | .289 | 1467 | 87 | 21 | .967 |
| 1000 | viner. | . #2 | | | | | 21 32 | -2 | ė | 97 | 327 | 1374 | | •24 | .984 |
| 1937St. Louis(a) | Amer. | 1B | 149 | 614 | 87 | 201 | 32 | 9 | • | 91 | | | -13 | -24 | |
| 1928 Washington (b) | Amer | . 1B | 20 | 49 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 0 | o | 2 | .245 | 45 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 |
| 1928 Boston | Mat | 18 | 118 | 491 | 71 | 167 | 26 40 | 4 | 4 | 68 | .340 | 1188 | *85 | 15 | .968 |
| 7020 Poston | 27-4 | ΪĔ | 154 | 629 | 67 | 205 | 40 | Ď. | • | 79 | .326 | 1398 | 111 | *28 | .962 |
| 1929 Boston | Nat. | | | | | | 72 | ~ | • | | | | | 13 | 987 |
| 1930-Boston | Nat. | 113 | 116 | 431 | 54 | 133 | 15 | • | - 2 | 67 | .309 | 915 | . 81 | | |
| 1931-Rochester | Int. | 1B | 159 | 613 | 86 | 186 | 37 | 5 | 3 | 81 | .303 | 1401 | *125 | 20 | .987 |
| 1932 ShrevTyler | Terrae | 1B | . 70 | 258 | 28 | | 15 | 2 | 1 | 23 | .287 | 637 | 33 | 15 | .978 |
| | LUXAS | 10 | | 2400 | . ••• | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | ~~ | | | | | | - |
| American League | Totals | | 1667 | 6716 | 1092 | 2307 | 344 | 145 | 92 | 966 | .344 | 15375 | 1376 | 216 | .987 |
| National League T | otale. | | 388 | 1551 | 192 | 505 | 81 | 20 | 8 | 214 | .326 | 3501 | 278 | 56 | .965 |
| | , Out II | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

aSold to Washington for \$25,000, December 14, 1927. bPurchased by Boston N. L. for \$7,500, May 27, 1928.

Named to Hall of Fame, 1939.

| | PITC | HING | REC | ORD | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Year Club 1915—St. Louis 1916—St. Louis 1920—St. Louis 1925—St. Louis 1926—St. Louis | American American | G. 15 3 1 1 | IP. 70 27 1 | W. 4 1 0 0 | L. 3 | Pet. .500 .250 .000 .000 | H. 62 18 0 | R. 26 4 0 0 | ER. 22 3 0 0 | 50. 41 12 2 1 | BBJ 38 6 0 1 | 2.83 1.80 0.00 0.00 0.00 |
| 1928 Boston | National | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | .000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0.00 |
| Mades Western Water | | | 103 | | | 417 | - | _ | _ | | | 3.13 |

Follow your teams' progress through the 1973 season! Each of these unique calendars include: *Day by day game schedules. *Team rosters *Space to list scores as the games are played. *Information on 1972 Hall of Fame inductees.

Please send me the National and/or American Baseball Calendar(s) indicated in the Blank(s) below.

National League Calendar. . .\$1.50_____

American League Calendar . .\$1.50 :-----Both at a discount to me! .\$2.50 ____

I am enclosing cash, check, or money order to cover the total amount of my purchase. Please rush, and thank you!

Hunter Industries P. O. Box 9066 Shreveport, La. 71109

Manage in the Majors with STRAT-O-MATIC BASEBALL

Play the original computer-programmed baseball game that puts you in the Manager's Seat in every Big League _ ballpark in the country.

but so does strategy and Lady Luck. You the longshot Montreal Expos - but your

Like on the diamond, STRAT-O-MATIC by putting singles-hitting righty Felipe Alou in your lineup? YOUR decision

YOU CALL THE SHOTS

to peck away at your tiring starting pitcher in the late innings? Maybe you should give him the hook with the heavy artiflery on deck. But who do you bring in from the bullpen --- the flame-throwing to play his hunches -- and when to play rookie with the gaudy K record -- or the percentages. How about you? A roll of



O-MATIC, YOU'RE the Manager, It's

YOUR decision. A good Big League Manager knows when

'em hit it into the dirt? In STRAT- O-MATIC will do. It can be played in a basic version for younger players. Or the no-plays-berred way that puts you right in the dugout with Weaver, Durpcher,

Seever's no-bitter? Or how about sending aging base thief Lou Brock to second with rifle-armed Johnny Bench behind the bet? Suicide? Did you ever think the

YOU REACT TO

game). STRAT-O-MATIC is the game

that's been getting fans involved in every element of Major Leegue Baseball for

THE ONLY GAME FOR FANS



| STRAY-O-MATIC GAME CO., SHC. |
|------------------------------|
| 934 South Boulet Assessed |
| 82A South Bayles Avenue |
| Pert Weshington, N.Y. 11050 |
| |

Hease send me free brochure including semples of STRAT-O-MATIC Baseball. I enclose 10 cents to cover postage and

| Name | | | |
|---------|-------------|------|--|
| Address | | | |
| City | . State | | |

obituaries

(Continued From Page 41)

mentor as Coach or Mr. Rickey, even in later years.

Rickey had switched to the Cardinals shortly after Sisler began to blossom, but the Mahatma gave George jobs with the Dodgers and the Pirates in later years. Their mutual respect never lessened.

Sisler, who never played in a World Series, was made manager of the Browns in 1924 and held the job for three years. They weren't the happiest ones in his life.

HE ACTUALLY wasn't suited to be a manager. He didn't have a stinging tongue and he was reluctant to criticize. On top of that, his team was composed of many misfits. Mediocrity was intolerable to Sisler and when he stepped down, he seemed to be relieved.

It also was the beginning of the end of his stay with the Browns. After the 1927 season he was sold to the Senators for \$25,000 and played for them only part of the 1928 campaign before being peddled to the Braves for \$7,500. Not many years before, the Yankees had tried to buy Sisler for \$200,000.

Surprisingly, Sisler did well in Boston, hitting over .300 in all of the three seasons he spent there.

Then in 1931 he went to Rochester (International) the first time he had played in the minors. He was 38 and the eye trouble was still with him, but he hit .303. The next year he managed Shreveport-Tyler (Texas) and also played in 70 games. It was his swan song on the field.

HE WENT INTO the sporting goods business in St. Louis, but leaped at the chance to join Rickey when scouting opportunities opened with the Dodgers and the Pirates. He remained active until a few years ago.

Some of the Sisler skill and all of his enthusiasm rubbed off on his three sons. Dick was a major league player and coach and manager of the Reds for two seasons. Dave was a pitcher with three major league teams and George, Jr., an executive in the sport and now president of the International League.

They all recall with fondness a

proud father.

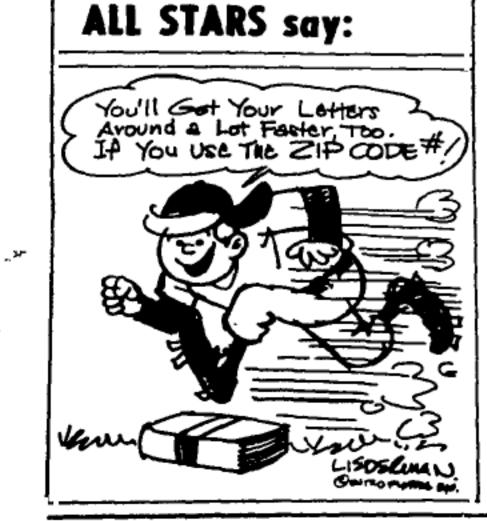
"One day long ago," Dick reminisced, "dad was in the back yard playing catch with Dave, who was pretty young and didn't know much about dad's accomplishments.

"A throw hit dad and Dave yelled, 'Gosh, how did you ever play baseball?' Dad put down the glove, walked into the house and as far as I know never put on the glove again."

John (Johnny) Drake, a fullback for the Rams when they were in Cleveland, died of a heart ailment in Detroit March 26. He was 56.

A graduate of Purdue, Drake was with the National Football League team from 1937 through 1941, then went into private business.

Drake twice finished second in



scoring and rushing.

Dutch Clark, who was Drake's coach, called the former Purdue star "the best player I ever coached."

L. A. (Mon) Whitford, baseball coach at Northern Iowa University from 1926 until his retirement in 1965, died of a cerebral hemmorrhage in Cedar Falls, Ia., recently. He was 75.

Donald R. (Mousie) MacDonald, a goalie with the old St. Louis Flyers in the American Hockey League, died of a heart attack in St. Louis March 30. He was 46.

John P. Leahy, a veteran college football official in New England, died of a heart ailment recently in Berkshire, Mass. He was 68.

Dr. Alvin E. Longstreth, former athletic director at Little Rock (Ark.) Junior College, died in Little Rock March 22.

Edward M. Brophy, 89, a golf professional in Cincinnati for almost 40 years, died in Sarasota, Fla., March 18.

Frances Griscom, 93, national women's golf champion in 1900, died in Tallahassee, Fla., March 30.



GEORGE SISLER (top, second from right) was the last survivor of this group, the first inductees into the Hall of Fame in 1939. Ty Cobb arrived too late at Cooperstown to be included in the photo. First row, from the

left, are Eddie Collins, Babe Ruth, Connie Mack and Cy Young. In the rear row, from the left, are Honus Wagner, Grover Alexander, Tris Speaker, Napoleon Lajoie, Sisler and Walter Johnson.

Svare: Norway Was Nice, But Kicker Couldn't

(Continued From Page 72)

called me last October and proposed the trip. He used to live over there, and he said we'd win more games with a European kicker. When I decided to investigate, Kap lined up the candidates and made out the itinerary, including Vienna."

Q. Did you decide on an extravagant trip like this without notifying the Charger owner, Gene Klein?

"No, I called Gene and told him about it."

Q. What did he say?

"He said, 'I'll go with you.' "

Q. How much does cost to send two scouts to Europe these days?

"Not that much. Less than a bonus for a third-round draft choice—and the returns should be greater."

Q. In the NFL today, the most reliable foreign-born kicker probably is Jan Stenerud of the Chiefs, a Norwegian, and your background is Norway, too. Did you scout anyone in Oslo?

"Yes, that was our first stop after London, and I was really impressed with one of the Norwegian kickers, Christian Toning. He's a big, burly guy. And naturally, as a Norwegian, he has the best personality of anybody we met on the trip."

Q. Why didn't you hire him?

"He didn't kick very well. He would have helped his chances a lot if he could only kick."

Q. Where did you go from Oslo?

"To Copenhagen and then Rome, Istanbul, Athens, Paris and Vienna. We spent two days at each town interviewing candidates and watching them kick soccer balls and footballs on the local soccer fields."

Q. Who were the finalists at each stop?

"As I remember, Franz Randorf in Copenhagen, Georgi Bercellino in Rome, Bekir Emez in Istanbul, a guy named Developolous, I think it was, in Athens, Boscie Erbt or Erbt Boscie in Paris, and Peter Preiz and Gunter Enz in Vienna."

Q. How did you communicate with those chaps?

"Bob Kap knows the languages. He did the explaining, they did the kicking, and we did the watching."

Q. As a head coach in a sport as sophisticated and scientific as NFL football, didn't you find it a bit beneath you to chase off through Europe recruiting a non-football player?

"No. NFL rules don't say anything one way or the other about Austrian field-goal kickers. It's never been beneath me to score points, and I think your chances today are better with a soccer stylist than an American."

Q. Why?

"There's less room for error in soccer-style kicking, and they're better athletes."

Q. What do you mean by less room for error?

"An American hits the ball with his toe, a European with his instep. Placekicking the American way is like a punch shot in golf. A soccer kicker gets his foot on a larger surface of the ball. The soccer action is more natural—like a golf swing—and easier on the leg."

Q. And you say it takes a better athlete to make the soccer swing?

"No, I didn't mean that. The difference is that in America the kicking specialist is usually a guy who can't do anything but kick. He can't tackle or even run. In Eu-



Harland Svare

rope, however, soccer players are active athletes. They know how to run. They're even used to some contact. They're just better athletes than American specialists."

Q. I'm sure you'd have a hard time selling this to anybody who saw Garo Yepremian in the Super Bowl. His pass attempt on the play when Miami messed up a field-goal was slapstick. The Redskins wouldn't have scored yet without it. Wouldn't you agree?

"Bob Kap tells me Yepremian isn't a soccer player. That is, he wasn't a professional. He played a little in high school."

Q. Yes, but the mistake he made could have been made by almost any specialist who doesn't go on an NFL field except to kick. Most athletes panic a bit when surprised. How are you going to guard against this when your kicker doesn't speak much English?

"We shouldn't have much trouble getting him to understand not to throw the ball up in the air if he suddenly finds it in his hand. On the list of don'ts, that's the first don't. I'll get somebody who understands Austrian to write it down."

Q. Why didn't somebody in Miami write it down in Greek for Yepremian?

"They tell me there are no words in Greek for 'eat the football.' "

Q. Yepremian, you say, wasn't a professional in Europe. Was your man?

"Yes, Gunter Enz played pro soccer eight years. The Europeans coming into the NFL now played first-division soccer over there. That means they're experienced international players-Tony Fritsch of Dallas, Anton Linhart of New Orleans and Enz. They're all Austrians. Horst Muhlmann of Cincinnati played first division in Germany-but as a goal-keeper. The earlier Europeans, guys like Yepremian and the Gogolaks, were amateur soccer players. According to Kap, they couldn't make third division."

Q. As far as American football is concerned, what's the difference if they come out of amateur or pro soccer?

"Pros are steadier. You pick up a lot of poise and maturity playing before those big, screaming soccer crowds year after year."

Q. Why would a major league

European soccer star want to sign on with an American football team as a specialist?

"I wondered about that, too. I guess if you're an Austrian or Norwegian, you ask yourself if life in America is what it seems on TV and in the movies. If it is, you may want to try it."

Q. Is Enz big or little for an American pro? What does he weigh?

"When I asked him he said 12stone something. I didn't embarrass him by asking him to translate."

Q. How big does he look?

"I'd guess 5-10 and 165 or 170."

Q. Is that enough to hit a football 50 yards?

"Size has nothing to do with moving a ball. Chi Chi Rodriquez hits a golf ball about as far as anybody, and I doubt if he's 5-8 or more than 130."

Q. Is Enz big enough to make tackles on kickoffs?

"Sure. He's a strong, tough professional athlete. All he has to do is learn the techniques. We've got him in Texas with Kap now learning everything about American football."

Q. At your Vienna tryout camp, did you hold the ball for him yourself?

"No. I took a holder along, Charlie Conerly. Charlie used to do it with the Giants."

Q. Holding isn't that tough. A lot of us could have done it, couldn't

"So I've heard. When we stopped counting, we had about 186,000 applications. Some of them hadn't played high school football. Some had never even seen a football game."

Q. Well, maybe you'll be visiting Europe again some time?

"It's something to think about. I told Gene Klein the other day that if Gunter is the least bit shaky this season, we may have to go back next winter and hold some more tryouts."

Q. By the way, what ever happened to Duane Thomas?

"I wish I knew. We had two days off in Europe and looked all over for him—the Forum, the Vatican, the Acropolis. I haven't seen him yet."

eague Los Angeles Times