

GEORGE BEAHON

"In This Corner"



A funny thing happened last week in San Francisco. The St. Louis Cardinals were in town to play the Giants. Except that nobody got excited. People stayed away from Candlestick in droves; or came disguised as empty seats. Cards and Giants? No magic? Not this time.

It was mostly a result of The Strike, or side effects of same. The Strike by the owners against the players, or vice versa. The one that delayed and shortened the season.

This news behind the news about the Cards and Giants starts with the fact that both clubs were holding down last place in their respective divisions of the National League. Who needs to pay to watch two coal-holers?

Vegas pegged both of these solid contenders for 1972. Both appeared to deserve pre-game consideration. But nobody could anticipate what happened to these two normally good boxoffice draws after strike reactions.

Take the Giants. They stood in the gate partially because suddenly Willie Mays couldn't get untracked. He admitted he couldn't get the bat around. That he just wasn't up to it and after all he was a boy of 41 summers. With Mays dragging, the club lost, on the field and at the bank.

Willie was under contract for \$165,000 this season and another \$165,000 for 1973 for sitting around some and hitting .125 when he stood up, and with all those empty seats, bossman Horace Stoneham couldn't handle the tab.

Besides, Willie and manager Charley Fox didn't see eye to eye on when Willie's name should appear on the lineup card, even though Willie was outdrawing Charley 3 to 1 at the pay window.

Willie went to his manager one day, still hitting only a dollar and a quarter, and said, according to a most reliable California newspaper, "I want to be in the lineup when and if I feel like it, or I'll take your job." Who ever heard of Charley Fox anyway?

A similar thing happened to another Giant manager. He now manages in triple-A for another organization. What Willie wants, Willie gets. So with the empty seats and the financial situation, Stoneham had to do something.

What he did was become the world's nicest guy. Because — this is what Stoneham said — he



Award Winner

Andy Doyle, 41-year-old Rochester native and parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi Church, recently won the most distinguished award known to the paddleball world, the NPA Sportsmanship award. Doyle received the award at the National Paddleball Association national championships held in Knoxville, Tenn.

Courtesy Journal

couldn't assure Willie of the compensation to which he'd become accustomed, he would give Willie back to his town. The New York Mets Fun City. Where Willie grew up playing stickball.

The Mets gave up a minor league pitcher, and for this they got the privilege of paying Willie \$165,000, this year and next year, and the added privilege of guaranteeing Willie a lifetime income. Mrs. Payson does not count her money. She merely gets periodical estimates. What Willie did then was so wild it's almost corny. He hit home runs and singles to win games, and he broke up games with his legs, and he saved them with his arm and he just kept getting on base and scoring runs and the Mets fanatics went ape and Charley Fox got to play the lineup he wanted and the Giants saved a whole bunch of money and kept on losing.

St. Louis? There's no way the Cardinal talent could hang onto last place, not with all that talent. But they did manage to bury their pennant chances early and at last glance they were out of the hunt, far up the track.

Before and during that Strike, Cardinal owner Gussie Busch got to popping off. Unlike other owners and gee-ems, Busch told the world he felt the players were full of it and overpaid and spoiled.

Gussie and Beer Baron (he drinks lots of beer, but often also uses straight bourbon; to build a boilermaker) blasted the troops in print. And the troops got to sulking. By golly, who could blame them?

They got bitter and they got to playing for themselves instead of for the team, and they got to losing.

Now some not so funny things happened to the Cardinals off the playground. They suddenly didn't get to draw any more advance salary. (Some took it during the winter.)

And now what had been the best treated traveling outfit in either league began traveling like just another major league club.

Now they were flying regular commercial airlines. That meant if a game ended at 11 p.m. on a travel night, instead of cloud hopping straight home, they might have to lay over and crawl out of the sack at 5 a.m. for a commercial flight. Or wait around various airports for connecting flights. Things that bug high salaried livestock.

Before that, the Cardinals had it made. They would pack and meet at the airport, and take off on the button, when ready, in special charters with all the deluxe refinements imaginable. Out of their damp, hot uniforms, and into a chilled martini and steak and winging homeward with no time lost. Card tables, space for sacking out, the movies, the stereo, the whole bit. Best of all, no delays or waiting around.

This VIP treatment extended to hotel accommodations. No doubling up and listening to your roomie's snoring or phone calls. The Cardinals, unlike most other clubs, roomed single-O on the road. (It added an estimated \$10,000 to the Redbirds' hotel bills, alone.)

This is all gone now. The Cardinals travel now like common people. It can't be just incidental that they are playing like common people. Now somebody please tell me who won The Strike in San Francisco and St. Louis?

Aquinas Athletes Honored

Varsity letters were given June 4 to 117 Aquinas athletes who took part in Spring and Winter sports. Twenty-one of the students were singled out for their performance in the nine seasonal sports.

The awards were made at a dinner given at the school by the Aquinas Sports Boosters. It was a farewell occasion for the club's moderator, Father Michael Biondi, CSB, who will be doing graduate work at Georgetown University next year.

Cited as "most valuable," "most outstanding" and "most improved" were, in that order, Alan Sadler, Anthony Bianchi and James Phau, baseball; Bob Duffy, Greg Pelcher and Tom Wedow, basketball.

Ray Whitmore, Bob Lamb and Glenn Johnson, hockey; Mike West, Pete Collins and Bruce Hastings, swimming. Dan Ambrose, Dennis Hezyk and Jim Lane, track.

Tom Cronmiller was named "most valuable" in tennis, and Pat Guiliano in bowling. Awards in boxing went to Tom Birecree as "fighter of the night" at the Mission Bouts; Birecree and Steve Walik for the "fight of the night," and Joe Gionta as "frosch fighter of the night."

Convention Set By Witnesses

Jehovah's Witnesses have selected Rochester as one of 59 convention sites in the United States for their 1972 series of worldwide meetings.

Angelo A. Catanzaro, convention manager of Rochester, said this year's assembly will be conducted under a theme of "Divine Rulership" and is scheduled for July 6 -- 9.

Catanzaro said he expects 10,000 delegates for the four-day event from New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. About 1,000 persons from Rochester will participate at this convention.

JOHN DOSER

Scholastic Notebook



Although schools in Section 5 can now schedule a ninth football game, not too many have officially done so.

Officially, because unless athletic directors have filed the proper papers with Section 5 President Victor Palumbo, at Victor Central, they haven't yet got that ninth game.

The biggest response so far has turned up in the Finger Lakes League.

These ninth games have been scheduled involving Greater Rochester area schools: LeRoy vs. Notre Dame-Batavia; South Seneca vs. Newark; Seneca Falls vs. Victor; Romulus vs. Mid-Lakes; Penn Yan vs. Haverling; Lyons vs. Clyde; DeSales vs. Geneva; Pal-Mac vs. Redjacket; Waterloo vs. Dundee.

Rochester area — Penfield vs. Jefferson; Batavia vs. Eastridge; and Pittsford vs. Webster.

Palumbo said schools have until June 30 to submit requests but that he would probably approve ninth games right up until school opens in September.

The Monroe County League has botched up practically every Rochester school's attempt for the ninth game because of its bye dates which occur at different times on each school's schedule.

If Madison were to schedule East Rochester, for example, ER might have only the fifth week open but Madison might already have a league game scheduled. ER might still wish to schedule Madison and would try to move its fifth week game to some other date — if its fifth week opponent went along with it.

In order to encourage the ninth game to take place between County and City-Catholic schools, both leagues should schedule consecutive eight week slates with room for the ninth

game at the beginning or the end of the season.

It would be nice to see the season wind up with matches between the top area schools — and get rid of those artificial newspaper polls which nobody likes but everybody reads.

WHEN ROGER BUNCE leaves the City School District to take over as district director of physical education at Irondequoit High in the fall, the city will have lost another top-notch educator.

The loss of course is Irondequoit's gain and the Indians will improve their already fine athletic program. Bunce succeeds Gordon Allen who is retiring after 30 years of coaching and teaching.

Bunce spent 21 years in the city system and was asked to step down to part-time athletic director at Marshall and part-time assistant to health and phys ed chief Nick Zona.

Zona didn't do the asking, the city board of education did, and Roger politely informed the board where to get off the bus.

Bunce has been one of the chief advocates of metro leagues and was instrumental in bringing about the merger of the city and Catholic leagues.

Conesus Group Names Officers

Conesus — Mrs. Clarence Miller will be inducted into the presidency of the St. William Altar Society at a tureen supper in the Conesus Legion Hall at 6:30 P.M. Monday, June 19. Other new officers are Mrs. Robert Whitman, vice president; Mrs. John Haskell, secretary, and Mrs. Steven Liptak, treasurer.

VOTE FOR

FRED WARDER

IN JUNE 20TH. PRIMARY

Republican candidate for office of State Senator from 52nd District which takes in Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, and Yates counties and the six towns in Monroe county of Henrietta, Mendon, Penfield, Rush, Webster, Wheatland.



FRED WARDER HAS BEEN TEN YEARS IN THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY AND DURING THAT TIME HAS CONSISTENTLY VOTED

FOR

Fiscal Solvency in New York State Programs to Help Agriculture, Business, and Industry

Welfare Reform Aid to Parochial Schools Right to Life

AGAINST

Excessive Governmental Expenditures Burdensome Taxes (Esp. on Real Estate)

Foreign Imports Which Eliminates Jobs

RETURN FRED WARDER TO THE LEGISLATURE AS YOUR EXPERIENCED, INFLUENTIAL, RESPONSIVE, FULL TIME SENATOR

Volunteers for Assemblyman F. L. Warder