

# No-Hitter, Unassisted Triple Play 24 Hours Apart

A no-hitter one night, an unassisted triple play the next. So it went in the majors this past week.

The no-hitter was turned in by George Culver of the Cincinnati Reds in beating Philadelphia, 6-1. He walked five struck out three and one batter reached, first on a catcher's interference.

The lone Philadelphia run scored on an error.

Ron Hansen, shortstop of the Washington Senators, pulled off the triple killing against Cleveland, the first such play of its kind in 41 years.

Dave Nelson and Russ Snyder were on base for the Tribe when Jose Arcia lined to first on a hit-and-run play. Han-

sen stepped on second to double Nelson and outran Snyder back to first for the third out.

Johnny Neun of the Tigers was the last man to pull off a triple play on May 31, 1927 -- against Cleveland.

THERE'LL BE a big game Monday when the Detroit Free Press softball team meets Chrysler in the semifinals of the Wordsmith's Softball League. Such elite members of the FP sports department as George Puskas, Joe Falls, George Cantor, Ken Clover and Kurt Sylvester play for the FP team. It was Sylvester's three-run triple that paced the FP team to its last win.

THE GREEN BAY Packers gave released rookie back Bob Apisa from Michigan State. The Packers also have traded rookie guard Steve Dulik to Atlanta for placekicker Wade Trahan.

PRO FOOTBALL teams are played with players demanding salary hikes. Several have "walked out," among them Michigan State's Gary Ballman, who has had some difficulties with the Philadelphia Eagles.

STAGE DOOR JOHNNY, one of the nation's top three-year-olds, has been retired because of a leg injury.

MARTY REISSEN has jumped on to professional tennis. Reiser had won a title in his pro career in Europe last week. Reissen has been one of the

top U.S. amateurs and last Sunday lost in the finals at Philadelphia to Arthur Ashe.

DOUBLES PARTNERS Jack Treloard and Jack Born topped the 1967-68 Greater Detroit Bowling Association's All-City team.

Don Wray, Al Thompson and Bob Kwolek rounded out the selections. Treloard was named the captain after averaging 211 in 102 games as a member of the John Wray team.

Born was the only repeater from last year.

The second-team selections included Rick McCarty, who's only 16. He averaged 201 for the season.

CYNTHIA COVETTE is only 22. But she already is considered "an old lady" as far as swimming wars are concerned.

Miss Covette of Wayne State U. made the Olympic team four years ago, but will have her problems repeating when the trials are held in Los Angeles, Aug. 24-28.

Lions, etc. Taylor follows Walled Lake, Troy, Pontiac, Dearborn and even Detroit, which have expressed an interest.

"Taylor officials point out that a stadium in their city would be adjacent to all the major expressways.

The brilliant crop of youngsters (16-18) in the U.S. endangers Miss Covette's chances of representing her country in Mexico City.

THE CITY OF TAYLOR is the latest to make a bid for a new metropolitan stadium, which would house the Tigers, Second in Tourney

East Lansing -- Jim Wibby, of Plymouth, was runner-up in the Michigan State University single intramural tennis tournament this summer.

## Observing Sports ...By George Maskin

Confusion reigned this past week in the Greater Livonia Connie Mack Baseball League.

Through nobody's fault, a flock of last-minute games had to be made up to qualify division winners for district tournaments.

We say "nobody's fault" because these were games rained out earlier in the campaign.

Under the league's rules, every contest that might have a bearing on the title must be held. Hence the jam-up which resulted in teams playing four games in three days, five in four, etc.

The races in both divisions were thrillers. Not until all the games were in it was finally decided who won -- and who lost -- the pennants.

Which is great!

To a point, at least.

IN THE HECTIC developments of the final week, there was a ruling at one stage from league boss Bob Green that a game involving the Livonia Phillippi Service and the Livonia Spartans had to be staged to a finish.

Green's proclamation came while the game was going on and was agreed to by the managers and players, although all concerned were aware of the curfew that exists on all games played at Livonia's Ford Field.

The game ran past the curfew and continued merrily on.

There was no score until the 11th inning

when finally Phillippi captured a 1-0 thriller.

Well, Phillippi thought it had won.

Shortly afterward, Green reversed himself. He said that there was a curfew rule that he couldn't make a decision to violate his own rule.

Hence, he declared the game had to revert back to seven innings when there was no score and ruled an official tie.

FOR A MAN to admit a mistake is, indeed, a very honorable step.

Most of us would rather try and talk ourselves out of a jam with a big white lie.

On this score, Green rates our admiration.

Yet, there were some managers who felt that once Green made his original announcement that "the game would be played to a finish," he should have stuck by it.

How would you like to have been the managers of Livonia's Allen Fence and Northville teams, who were "pulling" for a Spartans' loss, because it meant they'd be right back in the divisional title picture?

THEN, THERE'S something else about the pile-up in Connie Mack play.

It forced the playoffs between Livonia's Cardinal Decorating and Redford Township to come to a complete halt.

Originally, the teams were to have played last Monday. Then the game was scheduled for Wednesday.

As we pen these words, one has no idea when the best-of-three playoffs will begin between Cardinal and Redford to determine which advances into the state tournament next week in Ann Arbor.

Green isn't really to blame for the Free Press holdup. It's just that with the Mack games to be made up, Cardinal and Redford players have been performing elsewhere.

Cardinal players are scattered over three teams in the Mack League; Redford over two.

Hence the Free-Press action has to wait.

Which brings up a point: Since sandlot baseball has grown and grown in these parts, why not bar a player from competing on two teams?

What would be wrong with upping the games played in the Free Press League to 14 a month; in the Connie Mack to 12?

This amount of action should be enough to suit the appetites of all the players, and give them an opportunity to do a little something else in the summer.

It also would eliminate what we have this summer, a jam-up, a wait and some unpleasant, off and on the diamond.

## Northville Ends On High Note

Northville Downs celebrated its 25th birthday in golden style with the silver anniversary going down in the history books as the best ever.

Wagering and attendance were at an all-time high with the handle up 10 per cent over last year with a record night average of \$310,810 and the turnstile count up one per cent.

This despite the fact that the "Downs" was hit by inclement weather at some point on practically every weekend and a heavy downpour in late afternoon held the final night's crowd down to 4,700, and betting sagged to \$255,961.

Northville handled a record \$16,785,889 for the 54 nights.

Tom Wantz, 26-year-old Adrian, Mich., driver-trainer who had never won anything before, joined Northville's list of driving champions when he compiled a 411 winning percentage.

Wantz had 67 starts, 20 wins, 10 seconds and six thirds.

It was a tight battle down to the wire between Wantz and veteran Ted Taylor, of Casselberry, Fla., with the former clinching the title on the next to last night when he had two entries and won with both. That placed him on top of reach even though Taylor had four entries on closing night and won two, with one second and a third.

Taylor took the trophy for the driver with the most victories for the second straight year and just missed winning the title with his 4-2 average.

## Wings Schedule 10 Preseason Contests

The Red Wings completed their 1968 preseason hockey schedule Friday. General Manager Sid Abel announced the Wings will play a total of 10 games, including two in Detroit he booked last week.

The preseason slate will begin Sept. 20, seven days after the Wings open training camp in Port Huron. They will launch the campaign against Boston of the Bruins' training base in London, Ont.

The schedule matches Detroit against NHL teams in nine contests and against the Detroit farm club, in the other. The Detroiters play a pair of contests each against Boston, Minnesota, Oakland and Toronto and a single game against Montreal.

Four of the 10 games will be played in Michigan and two others will be within easy commuting distance of Detroit.

THE WINGS will play a pair of contests at Olympia, facing Toronto on Sept. 26 and Montreal on Sept. 28. In addition, the club has set two games

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**Sands Rules In Softball**

Sands Lounge with a 12-1 record carried off the regular season title in Livonia's Senior Unlimited softball league.

Cloverlanes and Braves tied for second at 11-2, while Mike and Toms finished fourth at 10-2.

Other teams: Thomas Homes 9-4, Chevrolet S and B 7-6, Teepee Realty 6-5, R. and L. Wall 6-7, R.W.S. Michigan Ball 5-8, Hawthorn Center 4-0, Kerr 3-10, Garfield Auto Parts 2-11 and Nemco 0-13.

The playoffs open Monday at Ford Field with Mike and Toms meeting Thomas at 6:30 p.m., Braves and Chevrolet S, and B, facing at 8 and R. and L. Wall engaging Cloverlanes at 9:30. Teepee drew the bye for the two-debut and out competition.

**4 From Area Make Grade**

Area golfers were among the qualifiers in the State Public Golf tournament at Fenton.

The group included Gary Robinson of Plymouth, who shot 70, Bill Curtis, Farmington (72), Joe Wilson, Livonia (71), and Rocky Pozza, Livonia (71).

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