

Dramatic Highlights Of Tigers Pennant Drive

By MORRIS MOORAWNICK

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1968 DETROIT TIGERS BASEBALL SEASON

- April 11: Gates Brown socks pinch homer leading off ninth inning to beat Boston, 4-3 (home)
- April 14: Bill Freehan singles with bases loaded in 10th inning to beat Chicago, 5-4 (home)
- April 17: Jim Price hits two-strike, two-out pinch blow for single in ninth inning to knock in tying run; Willie Horton homers with two out in 10th inning to beat Cleveland, 4-3 (home)
- April 21: Denny McLain wins first game of season, beating Chicago, 4-2, for Detroit's ninth straight win (road)
- May 1: Dick McAuliffe triples and scores on Horton's sacrifice fly in eighth inning to beat Minnesota, 3-2 (home)
- May 6: Tigers lose fourth game in five starts, 4-0, to Baltimore (road) on one batter by Dave Leonhard (Jim Northrup singles with two out in seventh) to drop 2 1/2 games off pace
- May 7: Tom Matchick's pinch double with two out in ninth inning knocks in Horton and Don Wert to beat Baltimore, 2-1 (road) snapping Orioles' eight-game winning streak
- May 8: Northrup makes spectacular diving catch of Brooks Robinson's liner with two out and bases loaded in eighth inning to preserve 3-1 win (road); also hits homer in first
- May 10: Detroit takes first place for good with 12-1 win over Washington (road). Al Kaline knocks in six runs with homer, double and single (his homer -- No. 306 -- ties him with Hank Greenberg for club career leader)
- May 17: Northrup hits grand slam homer to cap five-run ninth inning to beat Washington.

- May 19: In doubleheader with Washington at home -- Brown hits pinch single in bottom of eighth to beat Senators, 5-4. In second game won by Detroit 7-0. Eddie Matthews, McAuliffe and Kaline homer -- Kaline's home run sets new all-time club mark (No. 307)
- May 31: Horton homers in seventh inning to beat New York, 1-0 (home)
- June 1: Mickey Stanley triples in eighth inning with two out in ninth to beat Cleveland, 4-3 (home)
- June 12: McAuliffe homers in eighth inning to beat Minnesota, 2-1, (home)
- June 13: McLain wins 10th (2 losses) over Minnesota, 3-1, on six hits (home)
- June 14: Wert hits first pinch in 14th inning for homer to beat Chicago, 6-5 (road)
- June 23: Dick Tracewski hits three-run homer in fifth inning to beat Cleveland, 4-1, in the second game of doubleheader (his fifth homer in seven years) (road)
- June 24: Northrup hits two grand slam homers to beat Cleveland, 14-3, (road) -- the sixth major league to accomplish the feat and the second to do it in two consecutive times at bat; Price also hits first major league homer
- June 25: Horton hits two-run triple to snap tie in six-run seventh inning to give Detroit an 8-5 win over New York (road)
- June 28: Stanley hits two-run homer in seventh inning to beat Chicago, 5-4 (home)
- June 29: Northrup hits third grand slam homer in six days in third inning to beat Chicago, 5-2 (home)
- June 30: Tigers lose most lopsided game of season, 12-0, to Chicago (home)
- July 1: Kaline comes off disabled list to make debut at first base, knocks in winning run with a sixth-inning single to beat California, 5-1 (home); Mickey Lolich pitches five hits and six runs in 14th inning (14)
- July 4: Tigers score nine runs in second inning to beat California, 13-10, in true Independence Day celebration with nine homers -- two by Moe Cash and Northrup and one by Freehan and Horton to tie team record for homers in game; Northrup also triples and knocks in five runs (home)
- July 5: Freehan socks two three-run homers to beat Oakland, 8-5 (home)
- July 7: Detroit whips Oakland, 5-4 and 7-0, in doubleheader to go into All-Star Game break with nine and one-half game lead over second-place Cleveland; in first game, Horton hits first pinch off reliever Ed Sprague with one out in ninth in-

- ning to win game (home)
- July 16: McLain passes 1967 win total of 17 by beating Oakland, 4-0, on eight hits (his 18th against two losses) to snap a three-game losing streak (road)
- July 19: Matchick hits two-run homer in ninth inning with two out to beat Baltimore, 5-4, (home)
- July 20: Dave McNally, hitless in 42 previous times at bat, hits first major league homer with one out to climax four-run fifth inning as Baltimore beats Detroit, 5-3; McLain is kayaked for first time in 24 starts of

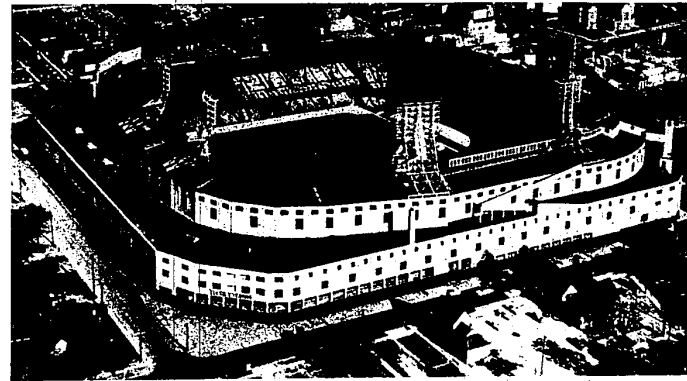
- season, snapping nine-game winning streak (18-3 now) (home)
- July 23: Price hits pinch single to tie game at 4-4 in two-run eighth inning and Brown hits pinch single in eighth to beat Washington, 6-4 (road)
- July 26: Darryl Patterson strikes out Fred Valentine, Brooks Robinson and Dave Johnson in sixth inning with bases loaded to preserve 2-0 lead in 4-0 win -- the key win in the first game of a three-game series at Baltimore with only a five and one-half game lead and a three game losing streak to Baltimore going

- into game
- July 27: McLain wins 20th game (3 losses) on three-batter before 45,729 in stands (road); second pitcher in 48 years to post 20 before Aug. 1; Cash leads way in 9-0 win with two doubles and two singles
- July 30: Earl Wilson homers in 5-0 win over New York on three-batter for his 100th major league win (home)
- Aug. 6: In first game of doubleheader, John Hiller strikes out first six Cleveland batters to set major league mark for strikeouts at start of game; Tracewski singles, knocking in deciding marker in 17th inning

- to beat Indians, 2-1; second game called after eight innings with Tigers leading, 5-2, by 1 a.m. curfew (first time in history at home)
- Aug. 7: Complete suspended game with Tigers winning, 5-2, over Cleveland, and beat Indians, 6-1, in nightcap, with Dave Campbell's first hit of major league career insuring game in eighth inning -- a two-run homer
- Aug. 10: Cash homers in eighth inning to beat Boston, 4-3 (home)
- Aug. 11: Brown wins both games of doubleheader (home) against Boston; pinch homer

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- with two out in 14th inning of opener wins, 5-4; Wayne Comer also socks pinch homer in seventh -- first of career -- to help bring Tigers back from first inning, 4-0, deficit; Brown singles to cap four-run ninth inning in nightcap as Tigers win, 5-5.
- Aug. 12: McLain wins 15th straight road game, 6-3, over Cleveland on five hits (now, 24-3); team scores three runs in ninth inning to cement win
- Aug. 16: McLain pitches seven hits to beat Boston, 4-0, as he records sixth shutout and 16th straight road win (25-3)
- Aug. 17: Freehan homers in 11th inning with two out after Tigers blow seven-run lead to beat Boston, 10-9 (road); Cash knocks in five runs with homer and four singles
- Aug. 20: Hiller pitches one-hitter in first game of doubleheader to beat Chicago, 7-0 (home)
- Aug. 21: Price hits pinch homer in 10th inning with one out to beat Chicago, 3-2 (home)
- Aug. 22: Back-to-back homers by Kaline and Horton in sixth inning power Detroit to 4-2 win over Chicago (home), but Tigers lose McAuliffe in third inning on five-day suspension after fracas with pitcher Tommy John on brush-back pitch
- Aug. 23: Tigers lose first game of doubleheader to New York, 2-1, (road) play a 3-2 tie in second game after 10 innings (called by curfew at New York)
- Aug. 25: Tigers drop doubleheader to New York, marking four losses in a row, longest losing streak of year, in first game, Tigers blow 5-0 lead and lose, 6-5, with Rocky Colavito winning game on mound with 2 1/3 innings of shutout relief; Rock also homers in second game as New York wins, 5-4 (road)
- Aug. 27: Detroit loses at Chicago, 2-1, to see first-place margin over Baltimore shrink to four games (smallest over second half of season)
- Aug. 30: Largest crowd since 1961 -- 53,575 -- see
- Sept. 1: McLain greets month with 27th win (five losses) to beat Baltimore, 7-5, and gets out of jam in third inning by starting a triple play on Boggs Powell's liner
- Sept. 2: Freehan socks homer in 10th inning to give Tigers a 4-3 win over Oakland and split in doubleheader (road)
- Sept. 3: Detroit scores four runs in ninth inning to beat Oakland, 6-3, on Northrup's tieing which drives in tieing and winning run (road)
- Sept. 14: Horton singles home winning run with one out in ninth inning to give McLain 30th win in 5-4 decision over Oakland (home) -- the first 30-game winner since 1934
- Sept. 16: Cash knocks in five runs with homer, double and single to beat New York, 9-1, and clinch a tie for pennant (home)
- Sept. 17: Wert singles in ninth inning with two out and bases loaded to give Tigers a 2-1 win over New York as Boston beats Baltimore to clinch pennant and set off wild revelry (Joe Spina becomes surprise starter when Wilson hurts shoulder and pitches brilliant five hits) (home)
- Sept. 19: Cash knocks in three runs with two homers as McLain wins 31st game in 6-2 win over New York (home); McLain caps first year with extraordinary gesture in eighth inning -- giving Mickey McAuliffe bat pitch to sock 538th career homer (all-time third place)
- Sept. 23: McLain loses to Baltimore (road), 2-1, but strikes back to break team strike-out mark of 275 (held by Hal Newhouse) by
- Sept. 24: Freehan's two-run homer gives Tigers a 5-3 margin over Baltimore (road) and sets all-time club mark for wins in one season at 102
- Oct. 2: SOCK IT TO 'EM



READY FOR FIREWORKS!! Part of the battle for the world's baseball championship will take place in beautiful Tiger Stadium beginning Saturday.

Confident Tigers Primed For Opening Series Game

The suspense is just about over. After 23 years of waiting, Detroit Tiger fans can cheer for their favorites in a World Series -- the 1968 edition starting Wednesday when Manager Mayo Smith leads his forces against the defending world champion St. Louis Cardinals in St. Louis.

Suspense also will end on another score -- Denny McLain will go against Bob Gibson in one of the most heralded pitching duels in recent baseball years.

The buildup surrounding McLain vs. Gibson has been about as great as the Tigers contesting against the Cards.

For a period, there had been talk that maybe it was too much of a gamble for the Tigers to risk McLain against Gibson, the Cards' ace who was the mainstay in St. Louis winning the Series from Boston last season.

But Tiger manager Smith has said "No Soap."

He's going to match his best with the Cards' best and most experts rate the game as a go-up, although St. Louis rules as a slight over-all choice to win the Series in six games.

McLAIN, TOO, has said he wants it no other way than to battle against Gibson.

"I'm tired of all the remarks

that have been made by the Cardinals and about the Cardinals," he said last week. "I think I can beat them. In fact, I know I can beat them."

McLain was gunning for his 32nd victory Saturday when he was scheduled to time up for the Cards by working five or six innings against the Washington Senators at Tiger Stadium.

The Tigers and Nats go to it again Sunday in the finale to the regular season which has been the greatest ever enjoyed by a Detroit team in the American League.

When the Tigers won over Baltimore this past week for their 102nd conquest, it surpassed the team's former high of one campaign of 101 triumphs.

That same win, incidentally, assured the Tigers no worse than a split against each of his nine American League rivals.

BASED ON RECENT play, the Tigers should be primed for the Cards, ... far more primed and ready than the Cards will be for Detroit.

While Detroit has boomed along at better than a .650 clip in the month of September, the Cards have stumbled, losing six straight at one stage.

Cards Manager Red Schoendienst has insisted that his team just built up too big a lead and it was natural for a slump to follow.

But an entire month slump! Both managers have announced their pitching rotations. They'll open with McLain vs. Gibson.

In Game Two, also scheduled for St. Louis on Thursday, Detroit will use Earl Wilson against St. Louis' Nelson Briles.

When the Series moves to Tiger Stadium next Saturday, it'll be Mickey Lolich for Detroit against Ray Washburn of recent no-hit fame for the Cards.

Then the two pilots will start all over again with McLain and Gibson.

It's thus possible for the Series to produce three duels pitting McLain vs. Gibson.

TIGER MANAGER Smith also will have such pitchers as Joe Spina, hero of the pennant clincher against New York a week ago, John Hiller, Pat Dobson, Darryl Patterson, and others waiting in the wings.

The Tiger bullpen corps would appear to have an edge on the St. Louis rescue crew led by Joe Horner.

If there's one problem facing Tiger pite Smith, it's what

to do about shortstop and Al Kaline.

Kaline didn't play too much in the Tigers' rush to the flag. First it was an injury, then the success of players like Jim Northrup and Mickey Stanley in the outfield.

There has been rumors of moving Kaline to third base. But it never developed.

Smith has tried Stanley at short in hopes that he could use Kaline in right and thus boost the Tiger firepower. Stanley hasn't panned out, willing as he has been, in the infield.

Thus it appears that Stanley will be in center, flanked by Willie Horton and Northrup with Kaline back on the bench.

An earlier experiment of using Kaline at first ended when Norm Cash became the hottest hitter in the Tiger lineup and began knocking the ball all over the lot.

SMITH FEELS his infield of Cash, Dick McAuliffe, Don Wert and whoever he uses at short -- Tom Matchick, Dick Tracewski or Ray Oyler -- will match the Cards' inner defense of

Orlando Cepeda, Julian Javier, Dai Marvill and Mike Shannon. "I think we have as much offensive punch, too, as they have," contends Smith.

The Tigers are well stocked in the outfield with Horton, Northrup, Stanley, Kaline and Gates Brown, while the Cards go with Roger Maris, Curt Flood and Lou Brock.

Catching also finds Detroit in great shape with Bill Freehan while the Cards use Tim McCarver and John Edwards.

THERE HAS BEEN great speculation on whether Freehan can keep Flood and Brock, in particular, from running wild on the bases.

Freehan thinks he can control the situation, adding: "The simplest solution is for our pitchers not to let them get on base in the first place."

All the game scheduled in each city have been sold out.

The Cards and Tigers both turned away several hundred thousand applications.

As in the past, the Series will be decided on a best four-out-of-seven.

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Do's and Don'ts concerning your FIREPLACE WHEN YOU FIRST LIGHT IT

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2. FILL BOTTOM OF GRATE WITH WADDED NEWSPAPER AND DRIED KINDLING.
3. ROLL SHEET OF NEWSPAPER LENGTHWISE AND TWIST.
4. IGNITE AND HOLD UP INTO CHIMNEY, ALLOWING CHIMNEY TO PREHEAT.
5. IGNITE KINDLING.
6. WHEN KINDLING IS BURNING AT ITS MAXIMUM, APPLY DRY SPLIT LOGS.
7. NOTE: NEVER SNEEP YOUR HEAVY CLEAN, ALWAYS LEAVE A BED OF ASHES UNDER GRATE AS THIS ACTS AS AN AUTOMATIC DAMPER.

We hope that you will spend many enjoyable evenings in front of your fireplace.

We welcome you to our column, and hope that you find it interesting and enjoyable.

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Observant followers of the Detroit Tigers, fortunate enough to secure tickets for the World Series, won't have to pay exorbitant prices for parking if they prefer to park in the Wonderland Shopping Center lot.

Wonderland Center will provide free parking for all games of the Series in Detroit -- Oct. 5, 6 and 7.

There will be facilities for approximately 2,000 cars by Gate 6. The DSR will provide bus service to and from Tiger Stadium with a fare of 75 cents one way. Early bird specials will be available if needed.

For additional information contact the DSR at 955-2660.

The bus trips will start at 9:50 a.m. with arrival at the Stadium by 10:45 a.m. The DSR plans to have buses depart every 10 minutes.

The last bus will leave Wonderland at 11:40 for arrival at the Stadium by 1:15 p.m. Remember, parking is free and the only charge will be for the bus trips to and from the Stadium at a fare of 75 cents each way.

GROOMING HIS DOG for the American Spaniel Club show, Saturday, Oct. 5, in Ford Road 182 Hall, 35603 Plymouth Road, Livonia, is Harold Schultz of Livonia. The show, sponsored by the Detroit Cocker Spaniel Club, attracted more than 125 entries from Zone III and is one of the largest in the area. Judging starts at 9 a.m. and continues until 9 p.m.

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