

observing sports

So we tend to bellyache . . . to complain about our young generation . . . about high taxes . . . about schools . . . about crime . . . about just about everything else?

After watching two weeks of Olympic action on the television—and one has to take his hat off to the ABC network for a superb job of coverage—there has to be more reason than ever for us to stand up and cheer.

Cheer for our young men and women . . . be they black or white.

Cheer for ourselves . . . cheer, cheer, cheer. We're quite a country. And don't let anybody tell you differently.

Look at those folks who went forth to Mexico City and competed for us.

Most were in their teens or early 20's. Some went heavy hearted, because of the racial situation which exists among us.

Yet against the best the rest of the world could muster, our men and women stole the show. In what counted most, there was nobody who could come close to the United States.

IN TRACK AND FIELD, in swimming, in basketball and in other activities, United States performers arose like never before.

They smashed Olympic and world records . . . they hauled in gold medal after gold medal.

And, as somebody said or wrote, it almost sounded like the record was stuck—so frequently was the Star Spangled Banner played to herald an American winning a Gold medal.

Considering the trials and tribulations we have been through these past four years, considering hot summers and disputes and threats and riots, it was simply amazing that the U.S. was even able to field a first-class squad.

Yet our "kids" proved they are better than ever . . . they proved, too, that there is no throttling the improvement in abilities, in athletic skills and in what a man or woman can do.

Like the 29-foot long jump, or, well, like a hundred other things.

TO HAVE BEEN ABLE to sit in our homes and watch the Americans run and jump and swim and play—and win, it's just another of the many astonishing features of this modern world.

Amazing, too, that the television came across the border in color, thereby adding to the panorama of the whole thing.

There's no question how small the world has become. Nor is there any doubt that, perhaps if athletics could be magnified with greater international competition, the guns must be silenced once, and for all.

It left goose bumps after the final basketball game when the three medal-winning teams marched into the arena.

The Americans were in the middle, flanked by Russia and Yugoslavia, the bronze and silver winners, respectively.

Some folks in the higher echelons of the two countries may not be able to get along.

Not so with the athletes. They battle as all enemies do in the conflict of a race or game. But when it's over, they salute one another, they applaud, they shake hands, they talk.

And did you notice that before each basketball game, the rival players made a presentation to one another, a small flag or other object each could take home as a memento of the particular game?

NOW THAT THE 1968 GAMES are over, it's our feeling that American rivals will work harder to do something about cutting into the U.S. gold rush when the '72 Games roll around in Munich, Germany.

A Russian big wheel already has sounded off, declaring the athletes behind the Iron Curtain will have to work harder.

It also means that our own athletes must give forth with greater efforts. Something will have to be done to reduce the tensions and the feelings which exist, especially among our black stars.

Without them, we wouldn't have ruled the roost. We'd have won some medals, but nowhere near what we did.

We'd have taken a beating in track and in basketball and in boxing, just to mention three sports.

IF THESE MEN and women are our heroes when they are representing our schools, our teams, our country . . . something must be done to make sure they are the other activities of life which are engaged in as important—maybe more important—to them.

No, we don't have the answer. Collectively, though, all of us should be able to find one.

On second thought, the answer really is staring us right in the face . . . if we just look at the preamble to the Constitution.

Doesn't it say: "All men are created equal . . . ?"

Grid Schedule

FRIDAY
Crestwood at Clarenceville, 8 p.m.
Garden City East at Garden City West, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY
Farmington at North Farmington, 2 p.m.
John Glenn at Belleville, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY
Bishop Borgess at Lourdes, 2:30 p.m.



REDFORD UNION'S Bob Plantrich (10), one of the top ball carriers in Observerland, breaks loose around end Thurston's Ron Spicer (32) in hot pursuit. Plantrich managed to get 15 yards before he was downed. (Observer photo by Harry Maute)

Hear Tigers May Place Wilson On Trading Block

The rumor birds are at work already.

One report has it that the Tigers will trade Earl Wilson to a National League team within a few weeks.

The Tigers merely laugh. A deal involving Wilson isn't very likely.

THE DETROIT Public School League wants the format changed for future state basketball tournaments.

Officials of the loop feel that it isn't fair that the eliminations be conducted the way they are now . . . so that only two schools from Detroit can clear the regional.

It's the opinion of the Detroit loop heads that with modern roads and means of travel, teams could be scattered around so that if one community has several good teams, all would have a chance to win regional.

It could benefit other cities like Livonia and Grand Rapids which have more than public high schools.

There's little chance the Detroit plea can be adopted for the 1969 tourney. But something may happen by 1970.

LARRY REGAN, manager of the Los Angeles Kings hockey team, was fined \$1,000 this past week because he took a punch at a referee during a game with Oakland.

RICK BARRY's first home appearance as a member of the Oakland team in the American Basketball Association attracted over 5,974, a new record.

Michigan's Hartis Leon Hart, the same name and virtually the same size as his father, who was an All-American end at Notre Dame and later a professional star with the Detroit Lions. Young Leon, 6-foot-6 and 270 pounds, has missed considerable practice time with an injury left over from his high school career at Birmingham.

He's expected, however, to be a starting tackle on Coach Dodd's freshman team, which plays Toledo on Friday, Nov. 1 in the first of two scheduled games.

ELLIOTT 19 Bruce Elliott, son of former Illinois football Coach Pete Elliott and the nephew of Michigan varsity Coach Bump Elliott, Bruce is a highly regarded quarterback from Indianapolis.

Paul Seymour, a 6-5, 210-pound freshman, is carrying the family tradition of being an end. His brother, Jim, is breaking many of Notre Dame's pass receiving marks, while his cousin, Phil, is a defensive end and linebacker on the Wolverine variety.

Another end is Mike Hukens, a 6-2 freshman from Bay City and the son of the Wolverines' 1948 captain, Bruce Hukens.

CHARLES FONDE, a 170-pounder, is the son of a former Wolverine great and now Michigan's defensive coach, Hank Fonde.

Another end, Bob Rosema, is

they play the Pistons at Cobo Arena next Friday night when youngsters buying a reserved seat ticket will receive a pair of official Pistons basketball shoes.

The Warriors' new coach is George Lee, former Highland Park, University of Michigan and Pistons star.

LATEST STATE PREP high school ratings in Class A were agreed on the first five teams—Battle Creek Central, Midland, Denby, Ferndale and Saginaw.

Reviewers leads in Class B with River Rouge second in both polls. In Class C, it's Galesburg-Angus on top in each ranking.

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Famous Names Listed On U-M Frosh Roster

ANN ARBOR -- If names mean anything, Michigan could have one of the best incoming freshmen football teams in the nation with Elliott, Fonde, Hart, Seymour, Hukens, Rosema and Brandstatter in the lineup.

Most of these names are associated with Michigan football, but several, like Seymour and Hart of Notre Dame, have links with other schools.

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Emile Griffith screamed that he was robbed after losing to Stanley Hayward in Philadelphia. Griffith claimed that he was called in advance and told that the officials would vote against him. Griffith felt it deserved at least a draw. The official vote was 2-1 for Hayward.

THE RUSSIAN NEWSPAPER Pravda roasted Russian athletes who competed in the Olympics. Said the paper: "Unfortunately, our sportsmen were not as successful as we expected."

Said the author of the country's sports daily: "The results of the Olympics require long and detailed analysis."

who played defensive end and linebacker for Michigan the last three years, Bob, 6-4, is one of two former Grand Rapids players coming from Catholic Central.

The other is Mike Keller, a defensive end, who has been injured, but still is considered a fine prospect. Also from the Grand Rapids area is Mike Smith of Rockford, a 220-pound center from Rockford, whose father is a football coach at Grand Rapids Junior College and formerly a college player at Michigan State.

JAMES BRANDSTATTER, a 250-pound tackle from East Lansing, is the son of Art Brandstatter Sr., a Michigan State great in the 1930's, and the younger brother of Art Jr., also a former Spartan.

Michigan also has two of the most sought after players from the Chicago area. Dave Zuccarelli, a quick, 6-foot-1 half-back who was voted Chicago's prep player of the year last season, and a teammate of Zuccarelli who helped lead Mount Carmel to the city title, Dennis Connell, who is battling Elliott for the starting quarterback spot.

Michigan also has recruited some size. Norbert Borel of Pemberton, N.J., reported at 310 pounds, but now is down to 290. He's a 6-foot-5 tackle.

OTHER PROMISING linemen include Mike Taylor, 200-pound guard from Detroit, Reggie McKenzie, 212-pound guard from Highland Park, Guy Murdoch, 220-pound guard from Burlington, Ill., Fred Grambus, 250-pound tackle from Oshkosh, Wis., Tom Darden, 187-pound end from Sandusky, O., Mike Oldham, 195-pound end from Cincinnati, and Tom Hukens, 190-pound end from Bay City.

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G70-15	27.24
H70-15	28.24

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