

Atlanta 500 To Yarborough

It was Cale Yarborough over LeRoy Yarborough in the Atlanta 500 race here Sunday as Cale won the event for the second straight year.

Both the winner and runner-up drove 1968 Mercursys. Cale averaged 125.37 m.p.h. Bobby Allison in a 1968 Ford was third.

It's Over For Wings And Abel

A second straight season has ended for the Detroited Wings without making the National Hockey League playoffs.

The Wings wrapped up a dismal 1967-68 campaign by blowing a 3-0 lead and settling for a 5-5 tie at Chicago Sunday night after losing the night before in New York, 3-1, at Olympia.

The season's close also marked the end of the coaching career of Sid Abel, who will remain as general manager, but will give up his duties of handling the team on the ice.

The best word now is that either Baz Bastien, who aided Abel this past season, or ex-Wing Bill Gadsby will get the job as coach. Private business will keep the veteran Ted Lindsay from taking over the job, as rumored in the past.

Few, including Abel, could figure out what plagued the Wings in '67-'68. The team set two records by scoring 245 goals while giving up 257.

IT WAS a year in which the Wings regular took big leads only to fall apart in the final period. Such was the case last Sunday at Chicago.

Despite their troubles the Wings drew 475,695 fans into Olympia, just 5100 under the year previous.

Tigers Ship Aguirre To LA

SPECIAL TO THE OBSERVER
LAKELAND, Fla. -- To the surprise of few, the Detroit Tigers have parted company with veteran southpaw pitcher Hank Aguirre.

They've sold Aguirre to the Los Angeles Dodgers for cash and a player to be named later. Aguirre, who had been with the Tigers for 10 seasons after coming to the team from the Cleveland Indians, spent most of last season in the bench, posting an 0-1 record and a 3.6 earned run average.

He often had expressed a desire to be shipped to either Los Angeles or the California Angels, since he grew up in Southern California.

He didn't figure too much in manager Mayo Smith's pitching plans since the Tigers plan to carry at least two rookie hurlers next when they break camp Sunday. They'll open their season against Boston at Tiger Stadium next Tuesday.

Dave Campbell, a rookie first baseman, has been lost to the team for at least a month with a shoulder separation.

THE TIGERS pulled out a pair of one-run victories over the weekend. On Saturday they downed Atlanta, 6-5, as Norm Cash slugged a pair of homers, Mickey Lolich hurled one-run baseball for five innings.

On Sunday the Tigers went 12 innings to note out the St. Louis Cards, 6-5, in what many regarded as "a preview" of the 1968 world series.

Rookie Wayne Comer, who

has a good chance of sticking with the Tigers, doubled in Bill Freehan, who had walked with the winning run. The blow came when Comer was sent up as a pinch-hitter off Larry Jaster, one of the Cardinal ace.

Detroit took a 5-3 lead when Mickey Stanley slugged a three-run homer and Willie Horton drilled one out of the park with none out, Livonia's Joe Sparma gave way to rookie Bob Reed in the seventh when St. Louis erupted for three runs to knot the score.

Reed is a student at the University of Michigan and returned to Ann Arbor this week. He'll rejoin the team when classes end in late April.

The Tigers were involved in another one-run game on Monday, but lost to the New York

Yankees, 6-5.

Dennis McLain from Livonia was tagged hard, giving up all the Yankee runs in the five innings he worked. Steve Whitaker tagged McLain for two homers.

Roy Oyler and Jim Price hit circuits for the Tigers as Fritz Peterson picked up the victory.

J. Carl McMonagle of the Institute for Community Development and Services, Michigan State University, was presented a National Defense Executive Reserve Commission by the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads. The veteran transportation planner will be called upon to fill a top-level post in transportation engineering in the event of a national emergency.

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