

# Lions Good Or Bad? -- Real Answer Comes Sunday

The preliminaries are over for the Detroit Lions. As some might have indi-

cated, they weren't taking the exhibition campaign too seriously when they won only two

out of five, it'll be different starting Sunday. Comes Sunday afternoon, in

the huge Cotton Bowl in Dallas, the Lions go against the Cowboys as the National Football League teams start playing for keeps.

The Lions couldn't find them-

selves in a much tougher spot for their opener -- unless they were matched against the Green Bay Packers.

A number of the experts are rating Dallas as the team which could dethrone Green Bay as NFL and Super Bowl champs and it can't be forgotten that Dallas played Green Bay for the league title the last two years.

What's more the Packers had their problems last December before they knocked off the Cowboys, 21-17.

THE ODDSMAKERS have installed Dallas as a solid choice over the Lions. Those who know have discarded the poor Dallas showing of last Saturday and Baltimore "as one of those secondaries, headed by the brilliant Lem Barney, who could lead the league in pass interceptions."

Offensively, the line may be on the weak side, until the injured Gordy returns.

Whether the Lions can defend Green Bay in the Central Division is doubtful. But the Lions are conceded a good chance of battling the Chicago Bears for second place.

Minnesota is destined for the last spot in the division.

Minnesota was to meet Atlanta Saturday night in the NFL's official 1968 opener.

IN ADDITION to the Lions, game Sunday, Cleveland goes to New Orleans, New York plays at Pittsburgh, Philadelphia visits Green Bay, San Francisco goes to Baltimore and Washington plays at Chicago.

The Los Angeles-St. Louis game Monday night, to be televised nationally, rounds out the first weekend schedule.

The season opens with some great names having bowed out from the heated battle ranks, as Vince Lombardi no longer is coach of the Packers.

Lou (The Toe) Grotz has re-

signed as a player for the Cleve-

land Browns and the same goes

for Jim Taylor, one of the great running backs of many years

ago. Bay and member of

New Orleans the past season to

In the American League this

weekend, Houston invades

Miami Saturday night while

Denver goes to Cincinnati, New

York to Kansas City and Oakl

and to Buffalo Sunday. Boston

and San Diego have the weekend

end off.

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## Arthur Ashe Moves To Top In Net World

Arthur Ashe, 25-year-old U.S. Army lieutenant, is sitting atop the world—the tennis world.

In dramatic fashion, Ashe won the U.S. Open title in five sets when he beat Tom Okker at Forest Hills, N.Y. For his efforts, Ashe collected nothing because he's playing for nothing because he's playing for nothing more than his expenses.

His victory stretched his winning streak to 26 matches in a row and now he should for more honors in the Los Angeles Open, which begins this weekend.

Later in the year Ashe hopes to win, perhaps the biggest prize of all—when he leads the U.S. in a bid to regain the Davis Cup from Australia.

PEACE AMONG the professional golf players?

Archie Palmer, who has worked desperately to patch up the break between PGA and the tour's established group of touring players, says now that it doesn't look like he's gotten very far.

Just what'll happen, Palmer admits, is something that time alone will tell.

DEATH CAME this past week for Gerry Knight, 17, a top ball player and student at East High School. He suffered head injuries while making a tackle during a practice scrimmage session.

THE TRIAL for next month's Olympics have produced some exciting and also some sad moments.

For example, Billy Mills, a Gold Medal winner in 1964, has failed to qualify for this year's Games.

Meantime, the U.S. qualified a speedy trio of Jim Hines, Charlie Greene and Mel Pender for the 100 meters and will send forth a potent group in the shot put, made up of Jim Maggard, Ray Matsen and George ...

WITH TWO WEEKS to go in the regular baseball season, Carl Yastrzemski of the Boston Red Sox looks like the repeater in the batting-champion race. He has zoomed up his average above .390.

A \$10.5 MILLION guessing game has been set for 1969. 15. That's when the new Seattle and Kansas City teams, which make their American League debuts next season, stock their squads with talent from the current teams.

Both Seattle and Kansas City can pick 30 men each off the major and minor league rosters of their new rivals.

For this privilege each new club will shell out \$5.25 million.

Randall Paces Raider Victory

North Farmington High School's cross country team was a 17-13 winner over Berkley this week in its first meet of the season.

Running on the Berkley course, Rick Randall and the twin combination of Paul and Tom Hebel gave North Farmington the first three places, finishing in the order. Randall's winning time for the two-mile route was 16:55.

North Farmington's reserves also triumphed, beating the Berkley reserves, 15-8. The Raiders copped the first five places, St. Otto winning in 11:15.

Robert White, Wayne State University's veteran trainer, gets a working leave from WSU grid fortunes this fall, being detailed as one of eight Olympic Team trainers from mid-September through October.

The NFL also offers a spe-

cial Monday night when

the Lions play at St. Louis

starting at 9:30 on Channel 2. The AFL games will be carried on Channel 4.

Wayne State University jun-

ior fullback Tom Wilson was thrown for losses just twice in 116 carries as a sophomore, totalling just three yards.

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