

# Lions Stack New Winning Spirit Against Rebounding Packers

Could it be that winning spirit is contagious? Especially when you play in the same hometown.

The Detroit Lions might be thinking so, because:

1. They now are tied with Minnesota for the lead in the Central Division of the National Football League.
2. The rest of the schedule would favor the Lions to roar on and emerge as kings just as the Detroit Tigers did this past baseball season at Tiger Stadium.

The Lions found the Chicago Bears a little tougher in their rematch Sunday, winning only by a 28-10 score as contrasted to 42-0 when the teams met earlier at Tiger Stadium.

But it was the third win in five starts for Detroit and with Minnesota losing to New Orleans and Green Bay being rebounded by Los Angeles, the Lions now share the top with Minnesota with Green Bay a game off the pace.

IF THE LIONS could keep Green Bay at Tiger Stadium next Sunday, well, that very well might be the end of the Packers' reign in the NFL.

They'd then be two games off the pace and their schedule in the future no bed of roses.

Meantime, it had been repeatedly said that if the Lions could come through their first six or seven games in good shape—watch out!

For after facing the Packers, who still must be rated as dangerous, things will get much easier for the Lions.

The one thing that still concerns Coach Joe Schmidt is why his charges have their ups and downs—why they don't remain consistent in their actions.

THE LIONS were "up" for the Bears, especially Mel Farr who pranced for three touchdowns in his finest effort in his brief tenure and a half with the team.

But the two weeks before the Lions were "down."

"Hopefully we have jelled and we'll stay jelled," declared Schmidt as he began preparations for the game with the Packers Sunday.

The Packers were beaten on a late field goal by the Rams, 16-14, Sunday and with a 2-3 record there are many now ready to count them out of the box.

All of which makes the Sunday game at Tiger Stadium a "must" for Green Bay.

FARR RAN for two touchdowns and grabbed a pass from Bill Munson for his third TD.

Tom Nowatzke accounted for the final Detroit touchdown after a Munson to Earl McCulloch pass carried the ball deep into Chicago territory.

Chicago was in the game only briefly, tying the game 7-7 on a long pass.

Detroit's defense thereafter was airtight and virtually stopped Gayle Sayers cold. The league's No. 1 rusher was held to 38 yards in 10 carries. His longest gain was for five yards.



BREAKING LOOSE for the game-winning touchdown is Bishop Borgess Fullback Carl Bernhardt who plunged four yards on this play. Borgess nipped Aquinas, 14-6.

## By George Maskin observing sports

After what happened around Detroit last week, there can be no getting away from much of an impact sports have on people.

Which is why we always shudder when in almost all Observerland communities, each time a millage vote comes up, there's a threat with it: "Vote down the millage and sports will have to suffer."

It was that way in Livonia and Garden City and South Redford and now we understand there's such conversation going around in Farmington.

We're not stupid enough to claim that sports are uppermost in this world.

Many other questions . . . many other matters many other problems are far more important.

There's the struggle to quell cancer, to end the war in Vietnam, to bring down our taxes, to make our schools better and better, to reduce the racial squabbles which exist between black and white.

BUT SPORTS—well, they can be so wonderful.

Take any one of our schools which fields a team. It can be in baseball, or football, or soccer, or basketball.

What single activity brings the student body, the teachers, the parents closer than sports?

Week in and week out, sports does it as the prep switch from football to basketball to wrestling to the other sports.

Sure, schools have plays and concerts and other extra-curricular goings on which attract good-sized audiences.

But not the way sports do on such a consistent basis.

And, when there's a winner, a champion, well, everybody celebrates. More than any other principal has been known to give everybody a day off to hail a sports king.

It doesn't happen that way when the band puts on a great concert or the student players rival a Broadway hit.

So keep sports kicking. Enough of these threats to loss 'em out if the millage fails.

Few communities in Observerland have rejected tax hikes for the schools. The people, who foot the bills, obviously want the best for their children. . . and most have to realize that it's pretty inexpensive to put on sports for what the student body gets out of them.

AS FOR OUR WILDLIFE after the Tigers wrapped up the World Series:

We don't remember seeing anything like it before.

When the Tigers won the pennant in '35, we were too young to comprehend what was going on. Besides, there was no television.

In '45, we were assigned to army duty in New York City when the Tigers won. So we missed out on those festivities.

But downtown Detroit was something the other evening. It's been a long time since any of us ever saw the community pulling together the way it was.

Nobody was mad at anybody. A black man, standing in the middle of Lafayette Blvd., near the main post office, grabbed the hands of everybody crossing the street.

Up the street at Michigan and Washington Blvd., a young white couple, caught in the traffic jam, offered to do something stronger than Coke to the black man, crossing the street.

People danced . . . they sang . . . everybody was a pal to the next guy, which is the way it should be every day of the year.

TO US: THE MOST touching part of it all came as we pulled into our drive at home and stepped from the car.

It was something like 12:15 a.m. and in the near distance there were shouts, there was applause, there was singing.

We wondered who might be tossing an open-air party on a school night.

Then it hit us—that over thataway Mickey Stanley lives. So we hopped back into the car and rushed the three-quarters of a mile to where the good neighbors in Kimberley North were saluting the return home of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley.

Boys and girls from North Farmington High stood in front of the Stanley home serenading the man who moved from the outfield to shortstop to one of the boldest moves a player ever has been asked to make in the World Series.

They told us it was the same over in Franklin when Al Kaline came home and in Southfield and Beverly Hills when Bill Freehan and Denny McLain returned from the wars.

Sports . . . ah, yes . . . what can be more wonderful?

## Art Ashe Heads Net Benefit

Arthur Ashe, the world's pre-eminent tennis player and several of his fellow Davis Cup team members will perform at the University of Michigan on Oct. 20.

Ashe, the U.S. National Open Champion, will join with Clark Graebner, and Davis Cup Captain Donald Dell for the exhibition. All proceeds are earmarked for the U.S. Davis Cup Fund.

Ashe, a 25-year old graduate of UCLA and now a member of the United States Army, astounded the tennis world by winning the Open title at Forest Hills. It was the first time a Negro had won the coveted trophy. Additionally, professionals were competing for the first time, but that didn't bother the respected Ashe.

Graebner leaped into tennis prominence last year by reaching the finals of the U.S. Tournament at Forest Hills, before bowing to John Newcombe of Australia. Graebner was one of the first well-known Americans to use the lightweight metal racket.

Donald Dell is the captain of the 1968 Davis Cup Team that will meet India next month in the final step before challenging Australia in December down under.

Dell's brother Dick, a member of Bill Murphy's University of Michigan varsity, will also participate in the exhibition.

The afternoon performance in the 14,000 seat University Events Building will get under way at 1:30 p.m. with a one-set exhibition between two more Wolverines, Jon Hamline and Brian Marcus. Then Ashe will face Graebner in the best of 3 match. The final contest of the afternoon will be a doubles match pitting the Dells against Ashe and Graebner.

Tickets for the event are \$2. University of Michigan students, faculty and staff can purchase tickets for \$1. Children will also be admitted for \$1. No seats will be reserved.

KALAMAZOO—First Western Michigan University athlete to be honored in the 1968-69 school year was junior defensive tackle Mike Stueck of South Bend (St. Joseph), Ind., who was selected a Mid-American Conference lineman of the week for his play in the 20-0 victory over Arkansas State.

KALAMAZOO—When Western Michigan University defeated Arkansas State, 20-0, on Sept. 14 it marked the fifth straight year the Broncos have won their opening game.

## Hi-Weight Handicap Top DRC Program

The \$15,000 Added Hi-Weight Handicap will highlight the first of the final three weekends of racing at the Detroit Race Course Saturday.

The six furlong event will feature the 10-race program.

Last Saturday, it was the Chicago invader, End of Time, a 3-1 second choice of the 15-745, who took the lead on the homestretch turn and held off the fast-closing Six Mark by two lengths to win the \$23,225 Graduation Stakes feature for two-year-olds.

Big Mouth Sam, the 6-5 favorite, finished sixth. A week ago, he had recorded the DRC's best time 1:41, for the mile and 70 yard distance. End of Time was only a fifth of a second slower.

## 4 Records, Fall In Sports Cars

Four track records fell Sunday at Waterford Hills Sports Car Racing course as the club ended its 1968 season with the 10th annual Fall Classics.

Chris Gahman, of Royal Oak, cracked his own D-production mark in his Lotus Super 7 with a 61.2 miles per hour clocking and Bill Barber, of Birmingham, lowered his record in C-class sports racing in a Lotus XI. Barber was timed at 63 miles per hour.

Len Pickering, Grosse Ile, established a record in B-class sports racing in his Alfa by racing to a 63 miles per hour timing. Bob Clemens, Roseville, posted a mark in Formula C with a speed of 68.6 miles per hour.

JEFF LANCE, of Troy, captured three races over the weekend to run his undefeated string to 17 and a perfect season at Waterford, while Dan O'Connor, Royal Oak, posted his 10th consecutive victory in his G-production Sprite.

Larry Clugman, Farmington, won the E-production championship in his MG-B and Larry Wilhelm of Warren was the Formula Vee winner.

Dennis Daly, of Dearborn Heights, took E-production honors in a Sprite, while Bill Clawson, of Dearborn, walked off with the Sedan-A title in a Mustang.

Jay Novak, of Southgate, was the Sedan-B title and Carl Harrington, of Livonia, won Sedan-C class. Paul Susella, St. Clair Shores, retained his Sedan-I championship.

Don Elchesteit, driving a McLaren Ford from Berkeley, took first place in A-B modified and Bill Barber, Birmingham, piloted his Lotus XI to the track championship in C-D modified.

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