

# CROSSFIRE

## Big Chance Offered To NFL

By LOU CHIESI

The Federal courts may have granted the National Football League with an unparalleled opportunity to expand its schedule of televised games in a special program hitherto unimagined.

If the NFL thinkers cease becoming the recent court ruling that prohibits each club from TV-ing games in its territory under a blanket contract with the Columbia Broadcasting System—with a share-alike division of the foot-

ing. In effect, the court has lacked TV contracts which permit a league to sign with a network for the televising of a single game only. The NFL pro football league, the American Football League, started such a program last year. Baseball game-of-the-day contract is another example. And the National Football Association is still after a deal, still another. College football TV is the same.

IT MAKES no sense from the fans' viewpoint because he gets to see only a single game out of the team's in which he often has no interest. Under the NFL program, he would see his home team in action. But the NFL now may take the court at its word and permit only a single game nationally, under a blanket contract with CBS.

However, there is a possibility that the NFL and CBS from showing several games nationally—one at a time, midweek evening.

The NFL, as a league, could negotiate such a contract and not violate the court ruling. Such a program would satisfy the demands for more National Football League television of games, and probably set off a revolt of housewives from coast to coast.

Imagine two pro games on Saturday afternoon, from noon until 6 or 7 p. m. And the other one on Sunday afternoon. Instead of only one game, the fan could watch two in a row.

Maybe a night game on Wednesday, too.

Pro football is TV's hottest sports attraction. Sponsors undoubtedly would be available. The NFL could reap a TV bonanza still unimagined.

TV OFFICIALS now harried by criticism of too many westerns and crime shows might find a pro football game just the ticket for a midweek evening, even during the prime time hours. Who could resist the lure of a football game? There are few production costs involved, and a pro football game probably would cost less than any other program according to anybody's ratings.

NFL officials have hesitated in the past from deviating from the Sunday afternoon TV plan.

Now the courts have presented an appropriate excuse. Pro football need only bow to the courts, and handle with CBS officials to organize an expanded national plan for 1962.

AT THIS WRITING the Detroit Lions are encountering considerable difficulty in getting several players for the upcoming season. There's no doubt that they have targeted the football company and general manager Edwin J. Anderson with some fancy demands for increased pay. The club finished strongly last season and the league schedule has been increased from 12 to 14 games.

And most of the Lions are ahead enough to realize Anderson's position after his proxy fight to retain his job. Andy doesn't want any prolonged trouble. His position can change overnight.

Several players are wanted, probably with handsome raises. Others are dissatisfied. They have powerful seasons.

There's nothing to keep players from refusing to sign. They may play out an option year under their previous contract and become free agents for 1962, ready to sign with the highest bidder for the services—either other NFL clubs or teams in the American Football or Canadian League.

ANDERSON and the Lions cannot afford a wholesale defection of players next year. The effect of a group of key men playing out their options undoubtedly would be demoralizing for this season.

How would the coaching staff handle players merely completing their options, players who might not be available in 1962?

Would players on their option year be benched in favor of rivals under contracts?

If Earl Morrill plays out his option and Jim Ninowski signs for another year, will Ninowski automatically become the first quarterback? Or what happens if both Ninowski and Morrill choose to play out their options? How do free agents in 1962?

The possibilities are intriguing.

### Comedy Corner

"Hey, Con! My dad says they've replaced you with a push button!"

# B'ham Little Leaguers Dumped in Playoffs

By JOE CADARIU Sports Editor

If astronaut Alan Shepard would have watched Monday's bi-district playoff game between the Continental League all-stars from Birmingham and the Taylor Northeast squad he probably would have repeated his now famous statement, "Man, what a ride!"

And the ride he would have talked about was the baseball flying over the fence. And it did—five times. To the disappointment of the local team, all five round-trippers were chugged by Taylor in their 12-1 conquest over the Birmingham contingent.

Starting pitcher for the Continental all-stars was Dave La Civita who struck out the side in the first inning.

BUT THE Birmingham pitcher suddenly found himself in a jam in the second inning when the home team Taylor's tied together two Birmingham runners followed by a homer to go into a 3-0 lead.

In the fourth stanza the first two Taylor batters connected for round-trippers and Coach Ed Schreck replaced La Civita with Tom Farrow. The new pitcher was promptly greeted with the third straight homer of the inning.

After that the local all-star couldn't crack back into the game, after that the local all-star.

THE LONE Birmingham run was the result of a bunt single by Mike Boltz who reached second

## Daring Young Man . . .

BEVERLY HILLS—While most four-year-olds are ruminating through backyard sprinklers, Mark Vogler practices hitting off the three-meter board at the Beverly Hills Athletic Club. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Hal Vogler of 18945 Warwick, Mark has been performing the feat since the beginning of the summer. A water bug since he was two, the youngster is being tutored by his father, a former swimming instructor and assistant football coach at Michigan State University. Mark, according to his parents, can swim a half-width of the pool and is increasing the distance each week.

## OUT-OF-DOORS

### Conservationists Tell Where Park Fees Go

Many Birmingham area motorists are queried as to where their park fees go. The question is asked, "Why do I have to pay for this? I've already paid to finance with my tax dollars?"

Conservation and State park entrants are required to purchase either a daily or annual entrance permit for use of facilities.

Other questions asked are, "When will the fees start to pay off?" "How and where is my park permit money going to be spent?"

THE MICHIGAN Department of Conservation has issued a statement explaining the use of the fees.

It said that the fee is the money going to be spent question can be best answered by the permit buyer himself. If he found his favorite campground packed with trailers and a picnic table, or if he ran into a waiting line at that same picnic table when he wanted to wash up and shave.

Simply, then, permit fees are going to improve the facilities which the public mounting demands have put in short supply.

THE FEES are going to finance a bonding program which will provide \$1,000,000 worth of improvements to campgrounds, picnic areas, bathhouses, and other facilities at Michigan state parks and recreation areas.

Another \$1,000,000 will be spent for new restrooms, picnic tables, which will be set up at public recreation sites for all tomorrow if they are not acquired now.

The department said that all permit receipts are earmarked for improvements—new facilities and new parks. As spelled out by the Legislature, Michigan state parks are used to cover the normal operating costs of state parks.

Permit buyers are, of course, that they already have, but rather for things they need.

PERMIT BUYERS will start receiving actual dividends from their fees within a matter of weeks, according to present plans. The first series of bonds, totaling \$12,000,000 is scheduled to be sold at the Conservation Commission's August meeting. This will permit the state to buy nearly 1,000 acres already approved for purchase by the commission, including 380 acres at two new parks.

The new sites are P. J. Hoffmann state park on Lake Michigan which straddles the Muskegon-Otsego state park in Emmet county on the Traverse Bay.

Next month a bond sale will also trigger construction work scheduled to begin in September which

when the catcher threw wildly to first. Next batter Greg Grove ripped a single to drive in Boltz for the one game knockout.

Birmingham is now out of contention for the state championship. The playoff was a one-game knockout.

The Continental all-stars became one of eight teams to play in the state eligible for competition when they downed the Birmingham American League all-stars 6-3 last week to take the District 4 championship.

Coach Schreck said the Continental League officials helped develop teams with "skill" seasons at the Birmingham Community House, instructor Joe Schreck and watching other teams.

He said the coaches and managers established good sportsmanship in the boys. That was the primary instructional point.

"Losing is not the end of the world," he said.

ON MOST Little League teams, the starters are 12 years old. But on the Continental all-star squad there were 14 boys 8-11 years old.

## The Birmingham Eccentric SPORTS

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### B'ham Tennis Club Nets 160 Enthusiasts

BAC Hosts Net Tourney

The Birmingham Athletic Club's women tennis enthusiasts held their annual invitational doubles tournament last Wednesday and Thursday.

The local women were hostesses to players from Indian Village Tennis Club, Birmingham Tennis Club, Detroit Tennis Club and Country Club of Detroit.

The group has many players who were widely competitors of the top circles in the nation, a few who have captured national ranking and representatives from all fifty states and five foreign countries.

### Recreation Round-Up

CRAFT DISPLAY

Craft projects completed by children from the six summer playgroups are on display at Showcases, Inc., 130 Brownlee. Everyone is invited to drop by and view the various items of leathersmith, stickcraft, pebble tiling, paper sculpture, water paintings, crayon projects, ink and paper mache.

The craft program under the direction of Miss Nancy Dougherty, has been one of the most popular phases of the summer recreation activities.

Over 1,100 children were registered in the six-week program at Adams Park, Birmingham, Birmingham and Quenton.

IF RAIN delays the program for children nine years of age and older finished last week. Over 100 children were present at the end of the six weeks with an average daily attendance of 35. During the course of the program, participants were stressed and each participant had opportunities to fire at various targets.

TENNIS CLASSES

The children and adult tennis classes ended last week with many of the participants registering for the community tournament which will be played Saturday morning and afternoon with finals Sunday afternoon at 2 p. m.

IF RAIN postpones some matches and delays play, finals will be played Monday evening.

SQUARE DANCING

The outdoor square dance scheduled for Friday was cancelled due to rain. The next one will be held at the community center, 1211 1/2 Park, 8:30-11:30 p. m. The caller will be John Tracey and the level of dancing is intermediate.

SWIMMING

The summer swimming program at Seaholm, Derby and Barnum pools will continue through August 12. Call the recreation office at 1800 for schedules at each pool.

SENIOR MEN'S CLUB

The last meeting of the Birmingham Senior Men's Club during the 1960-61 season was held Friday. Guests were Edwin E. Hyde of Sun City, Calif. and Fred Hubbel of Largo, Fla. "Doc" Lane who just returned from a trip around the world gave the club a warm greeting. Happy Birthday song honored Willard Hall, 681 Overhill; George King, 2811 Cambridge; Roger Jones, 1544 E. Lincoln; Ed Root, 1599 E. Brookside; and Ed Root, 1599 E. Brookside.

Gustave Ziegler reported sick visits for the visiting committee. Mrs. J. C. Hubbel had saddened the group.

For the season of 1961-62, Clarence Johnson of 10021 Vernon Blvd. appointed to provide entertainment the month of September and Harry Boyd of 22483 Sylva, as chairman of suggestions committee.

John Marvin donated a large wall clock to be set in someone modeled ranch room of the Community House.

SHUFFLEBOARD contestants are still hot on the trail of the leaders and the club playing groups are enjoying the Tuesday afternoon get-togethers.

Next meeting of the club will be at the home of Mrs. Ewald on Friday. The club's bi-monthly picnic will be at the Pontiac Yacht Club on August 11, and on Aug. 18 Mrs. Fred Conley will honor the Club at her home. The motorcade will leave the Community House at 10 a. m. for each occasion.

The speaker for the July 28 meeting was Fred Conley. Hubbel Wilson Sports Shop who showed color slides of his hunting trip through British Columbia. Wild animals are becoming scarce.

The display and comments were enjoyed by all.

The fall and winter regular meetings will start on the first Tuesday in September.

### 3 Area Boys In Playoffs

Fred Ewald and Chuck West, both members of this year's Bloomfield Hills High golf squad and the Oakland Hills Country Club show the Oakland Hills Golf League were among the competitors in the Jaycees' State Junior Golf Tournament Monday and Tuesday at Hillcrest Country Club near Mt. Clemons. (See reports on p. 1A).

Phillip Skover, from Birmingham, also was in the tourney.

Skover and Ewald tied in the Detroit Jaycee golf tournament July 10 at Hillcrest. He carried a 3-over-par 70. Skover and Ewald shot 73s for second.

Skover defeated Ewald in a sudden-death playoff to decide the winner of the second-place trophy.

Standings of the Junior Golf League at Oakland Hills show Red Run and Pine Lake tied for first with 3-0 records. Bloomfield Hills is in third, and West and Oakland Hills is in fourth with two wins and two losses.

### Swimmers to Meet

Swim teams from Plum Hollow and Western will compete for Red Run in upcoming matches. Red Run will meet Western tonight at 8 p. m. The team Holladay will visit the Royal Oak club next Thursday.

MI 4-1100 is a number for you to remember. Call it today and place your Birmingham Eccentric classified.

OF these, six were regulars including the complete infield and catcher.

The home team run hitters for the stars were Brad Hot with two, Ross Provenzano two, Bob Fowler and Dave La Civita one each.

Coach Schreck said the Continental League officials helped develop teams with "skill" seasons at the Birmingham Community House, instructor Joe Schreck and watching other teams.

He said the coaches and managers established good sportsmanship in the boys. That was the primary instructional point.

"Losing is not the end of the world," he said.

ON MOST Little League teams, the starters are 12 years old. But on the Continental all-star squad there were 14 boys 8-11 years old.

CONTINENTAL—Sotolazquez struck out first batter. Grooms grounded out before first. No runs, no hits, no errors.

AMERICAN—Fleming hit to left. Mays popped to ground at second. Mays grounded out second to first for the third out. No runs, no hits, no errors.

SECOND INNING

CONTINENTAL—Provenzano walked. Fowler tied hit to right center. La Civita walked. Provenzano moved to third. Ed Schreck advanced to the bases. All runners advanced on a passed ball with Provenzano scoring. Bolt struck out. Pitcher walked again leading the bases. Schreck struck out to end the inning. One run, no hits, no errors.

AMERICAN—Wallace singled to right. Thomas sacrificed with bunt down the first base line. Fargus was safe on an error with Wallace moving to third with Cummins at bat. Fargus attempted to steal second. Catcher fired. Hot's throw to second was caught. Provenzano moved to second. Grooms grounded out. Grooms threw out to end the inning. Two runs, two hits, no errors.

THIRD INNING

CONTINENTAL—Hot batted a single to center. Grooms singled sharply to right with Hot moving to third on a passing error. Provenzano beat out a high hopper to the left side of the infield. Fowler hit a bouncer to the right side of the infield and was safe on a passed ball. Grooms grounded out. Provenzano moved to third. With La Civita at bat, Provenzano scored on a passed ball with Fowler advanced to third and La Civita second on a passed ball. Schreck popped to short. Two runs, two hits, no errors.

AMERICAN—Wallace grounded out. Grooms sacrificed to first. Thomas walked. Wallace batted second. Fargus was safe on infield error. Grooms grounded out. Grooms threw out to end the inning. Two runs, one hit, one error.

AMERICAN—Grooms beat out a single to open second. Wallace batted second in the third inning. Thomas was hit by the pitcher. Fargus forced Thomas short to second. Fargus went to second on a passed ball. Fargus forced Thomas out pitcher to first. Galbraith lined to second. Two runs, two hits, no errors.

FOURTH INNING

CONTINENTAL—Provenzano struck out on a bunt pitcher to first. Hot struck out. Grooms failed to field. No runs, no hits, no errors.

AMERICAN—Grooms beat out a single to open second. Wallace batted second in the third inning. Thomas was hit by the pitcher. Fargus forced Thomas short to second. Fargus went to second on a passed ball. Fargus forced Thomas out pitcher to first. Galbraith lined to second. Two runs, two hits, no errors.

FIFTH INNING

CONTINENTAL—Provenzano grounded out second to first. Fowler tied to right center. La Civita struck out. No runs, no hits, no errors.

AMERICAN—Wedge struck out. Fargus grounded out second to first. Fargus reached first base on an infield error. Grooms forced Fargus to end the inning. No runs, no hits, one error.

SIXTH INNING

CONTINENTAL—Schreck popped to first. Hot batted second. Fargus grounded out. Grooms batted second. Fargus was safe on infield error. Grooms grounded out. Grooms threw out to end the inning. Two runs, one hit, two errors.

AMERICAN—Wedge batted second. Fargus was safe on infield error. Grooms grounded out. Grooms threw out to end the inning. Two runs, one hit, two errors.

A Final roundup: Continental all-stars five runs, three hits and four errors. American League all-stars, three runs, five hits and two errors.

## Canadian Champion

This is Ch. Dorchester's Captain George, sometimes called just Captain George, and very close friends call him "Cappy." The proud Dalmation recently finished his Canadian championship. He is owned by Birminghamites Madlyn F. and M. S. Young, 2157 Dorchester.

## 120 Enter Eccentric-Recreation Tourney

A record 120 entries were received for the Fourth Annual Birmingham Eccentric-Recreation Community Tennis Tournament.

Don Martin, superintendent of recreation for the City of Birmingham, said that if rain don't play, the semi-final matches will be played Saturday morning and afternoon with finals Sunday afternoon at 2 p. m.

IF RAIN postpones some matches and delays play, finals will be played Monday evening.

Children's matches are being played in the morning and afternoon while adult matches take place evenings.

Tournament director Nancy Grubaugh, city tennis pro, prepared pairings for the event and is in charge of all details of the tournament.

## Still Winning

Up and over goes pole-vaulter Roger Mason who is still staying in competitive form even though it's summer. The Seaholm senior is Oakland County champ and holds part of a three-way tie for the State title. Saturday at Ecorse, he took first place in the AAU competition.

## Chin-up Champ

Straining for that last chin-up is Chris Twining, 459 S. Adams. Chris was first in chin-ups for class B in last week's Junior Olympics. The win qualified the 12-year-old for competition at Metropolitan Beach.

## TEE TALK

With J o e C a d a r i u

Two Birmingham men invaded Port Huron's Black River Country Club and came away with the club's invitational best ball on the Sunday.

Angelo Lotti and Jack Geiss defeated Lloyd Martz and William Fred 3-1. A Long 3-1, Flight 18-hole. The locals edged Fred L. Riddin Jr. of Black River, 1-0, while Tom Holladay stepped up, in the morning semifinal round.

The runners-up advanced to the championship match by defeating Ed. Robert Larue, of Detroit Golf Club, and Jack Zimm, of Royal Oak.

NEWCOMERS

Winners for last net at The Newcomers Club week outting at North Hills were: A Flight—E. H. Lutz 40; B Flight—L. Riddin Jr., of Black River, 1-0; C Flight—C. Ykowiak 34; J. Taebet 36; D Flight—F. J. Coy 31; L. Christine 2-1.

Championship matches start Friday and will continue for three consecutive Fridays. Anyone interested in metal play is eligible for prizes.

SPRINGDALE

Springdale golf course announces that the next Scotch Foursome (Mixed) will be held August 19. (See TEE TALK, Page 7-D)