

McLain Went From Series Goat To Hero With Win

ST. LOUIS (AP) — When Denny McLain makes his pitch for a six-figure baseball contract in 1969, Jim Northrup would like to go along for the ride.

McLain would be happy to have him aboard—along with all the rest of the Detroit Tigers.

"I want to thank every guy on this club," McLain said Wednesday after going from two-time World Series goat to just-in-time hero as the Tigers pummeled the St. Louis Cardinals 13-1 with the

help of Northrup's grand slam homer.

"I wish I could take the whole gang into salary negotiations with me," said the Tigers' sore-armed pitching ace, who scattered nine hits while atoning for two Series beatings and setting up a seventh game showdown Thursday.

McLain, working with two days rest on a cool, rain-marred afternoon and bolstered by a cortisone injection that relieved the pain

in his right shoulder, shut out the Cards until the ninth.

Northrup, meanwhile, keyed a record-tying 10-run Detroit burst in the third with a bases-loaded blast into the upper deck in right field.

"Do you know that this guy has hit five grand slam homers this year and four of them have come while I was pitching," McLain said.

"It went through my mind while I was on deck that I might

get another chance to hit one for Denny," Northrup said. "But when I went up there I was just going for a sacrifice fly."

"I want to say something in Denny's behalf," the Tigers' slugging center fielder added. "I was playing behind him both times before in this Series and I could tell there was something wrong. He wasn't throwing right. He told me in the locker room his arm was hurting. But he didn't want to use it as an alibi."

Somebody told Northrup he sounded like McLain's press agent. "No," Northrup replied, "I'm going with him to get that salary raise."

McLain expects his 31 regular season victories will bring him a pay hike to \$100,000 or more next year.

"I told Northrup to sit down," said Manager Mayo Smith. "I was afraid he was going to get stepped on the way everyone was jumping around down there."

"I knew it was gone when I hit it," Northrup said.

In all, the Tigers pounded seven Cardinal pitchers for 12 hits. Al Kaline, top Tiger hitter in the Series, knocked in four runs with a homer and two singles.

"At least we haven't embarrassed ourselves or the American League," said Kaline. "We had to win the last two and we did, now we have to win one more."

Manager Red Schoendienst of St. Louis was something of an

exception.

"Glad to see your smiling face, Red," one newsman remarked.

"What else can you do?" Schoendienst replied. "They beat the dickens out of us. Every time they moved a bat it was a hit."

What about McLain? Someone noted he got a 12-run lead early.

"That DO make a difference," Schoendienst said, but added: "He pitched good against us in his first start, but his control was better today."

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