

# Sports

## Cleveland to celebrate despite no All-Star game

**United Press International**  
CLEVELAND — Clevelanders, no strangers to disappointment, are, for the most part, taking in stride the postponement of what would have been their day to brag about their town to baseball fans around the country.

This would have been "All-Star Day," with a record crowd expected to fill Municipal Stadium for the midsummer classic. There would have been parties in the streets and good times 'til all hours.

The baseball players strike has changed all that, postponing the All-Star Game indefinitely. And although many of the "All-Star Week" activities the city planned — food festivals, street fairs, concerts — are going ahead anyway, the main event is painfully absent.

There is, of course, the hope the strike will end in time for the game to be played sometime this season — perhaps on July 30. And there was word Cleveland will host the 1982 All-Star Game if this year's contest is wiped out completely.

But the fans who had hoped to see the game, the local officials who had hoped to show off the town and the vendors who had hoped to make a buck readily tell you they sure were looking forward to what would have been.

"I was hoping for the All-Star Game," said Mike Rollins, a vendor at an ethnic food festival being held within sight of the empty stadium. He had hoped to catch some of the overflow crowd tonight.

"It's too bad for the city," Rollins said. "I felt bad when I heard about the postponement."

A crowd in excess of 78,000 — by far the largest ever for an All-Star game — had been expected for tonight's contest.

The Greater Cleveland Growth Association

had projected the game would pump \$2.5 million to \$3 million into the area economy through housing, food sales, souvenirs and miscellaneous spending.

In addition, there was the priceless media coverage that would have given local officials the chance to spotlight the city's attempts to brighten up its image and battle its way back from years of decay.

"We're certainly disappointed with the loss of the game, but we're going ahead with many of our plans because, game or no game, this city has a lot of things to celebrate," Mayor George V. Voinovich said.

Now, the hotel and restaurant reservations have been put on hold and vendors are trying to figure out whether they will be stuck with thousands of All-Star T-shirts, mugs, helmets and patches.

Some street vendors say there has been little interest in their souvenir items with the game up in the air. The official concessionaires, however, say they expect to be able to unload their wares.

"I don't think I'd have any problem at all," said Al Friedlander, vice president of novelties for the Municipal Stadium Corp., and one of those licensed to sell items with the official All-Star logo.

"Individuals will want souvenirs for the All-Star game that never was," he said. "I'm getting calls and letters now. Some people think that if you buy these things and hold them for 10 years they may be worth some money."

There will be an All-Star Game of sorts today — a boardgame, computer-assisted simulation being run at Municipal Stadium.

## Duran looking for rematch

**United Press International**  
CLEVELAND — Former World Boxing Council welterweight champion Roberto Duran views his Aug. 9 return to fighting against Mike "Nino" Gonzalez only as a step along the route to a rematch with Sugar Ray Leonard.

Duran, looking slightly out of shape, arrived Thursday to begin training for the Gonzalez fight. It will be his first since Nov. 25, when he lost his title to Leonard by quitting in the eighth round because of stomach cramps.

The junior middleweight match against Gonzalez, a 10-rounder, will be nationally televised from Cleveland Public Hall.

The fight will be at 154 pounds, meaning Duran will have to lose at least 10 pounds. He will train at promoter Don King's training facility in rural Orwell under the direction of Panama Lewis.

"The last time he trained, which was last week, he weighed 164½ when he left the gym," Duran's

interpreter, Luis Henrique, said during a news conference at Cleveland Hopkins Airport. "He had a cold, so he didn't train for about four days. But he has been running."

Asked about Gonzalez, who is 24-1 with 13 knockouts, Duran said he remembered him as "moving pretty good" when he sparred with him a few years ago.

Duran, who also held the lightweight championship and has compiled a record of 72-2 with 55 knockouts, said he views the Gonzalez fight, and possibly another bout in September, only as the means of gaining a rematch with Leonard.

"I'm only interested in fighting Leonard," he declared through his interpreter, "because I'm running behind him. I want to fight him again."

Asked if he would be interested in fighting Tommy Hearns if Leonard should lose his upcoming title fight with Hearns, Duran

said, "I'm only interested in fighting Leonard."

"He wasn't answering a question, he was only giving you his own feeling about what he wants to do," his interpreter added. "I think it's obvious that if Leonard loses, the appeal for a (Leonard-Duran) fight loses a lot."

Asked about his recent Panama after his loss to Leonard, the interpreter refused to answer the question.

"We'd rather not get into that because that happened eight months ago and we're in Cleveland to fight Nino Gonzalez."

## Summer intramural registration closes today

Intramural registration for the second summer session closes with competition beginning Wednesday.

Team captains are encouraged to pick up schedules at the intramural office after 2 p.m. Wednesday. The schedules will not be available before then.

Over 2,100 people participated in intramurals the first session in team sports including softball, basketball and volleyball. Individual sports include racquetball doubles and tennis and badminton singles.

## Moffett waiting for signs before calling for talks

**United Press International**  
NEW YORK — The major league All-Star Game was to have been played today, but for the second time in history a "war" has eliminated it.

Since 1933, when the classic was begun, the major leagues have failed to produce a game only in 1945, when wartime travel restrictions forced the cancellation.

But, there will be no game today because of the players strike, which has entered its 33rd day.

Instead of names like Willie Mays, Stan Musial, Ted Williams and Joe DiMaggio bringing back beautiful memories, the names making the news in baseball are labor negotiators, Marvin Miller and Ray Grebey.

And, there is no sign either wants to get together with the other to end the strike.

Kenneth Moffett, the federal mediator whose proposal produced lengthy talks but no settlement during the weekend, said he was waiting for a sign of movement on either side before renewing negotiations.

Nancy Broff, acting general counsel for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, said Monday she foresaw no new talks in the next few days.

"We will probably wait a few days but I don't know for sure," said Broff.

The strike, the longest by far in major-league history, has forced the cancellation of 392 games and necessitated the postponement of the mid-season showcase.

Chuck Adams, a spokesman for the commissioner's office, said no date has been established for playing the game.

"Until we have a resolution of the players strike, we cannot set a specific date," said Adams. "The 30th of July is a possibility."

If the game is to be played on that date, the parties would need a settlement in a hurry — probably within a week. According to a formula established by players and clubs, it would take 12 days to place properly conditioned players on the field, and that time lengthens with additional strike time.

If the game is not played this year, the Office of the Baseball

Commissioner has said Cleveland will most likely be the host next year. That would mean Montreal, originally scheduled as the site for next year's All-Star game, wouldn't get the contest until 1984.

Comiskey Park in Chicago has been picked as the site for the silver anniversary contest in 1983 since it is the site of the first All-Star Game played in 1933.

However, the strike may not be settled by next season. The way things are going not even Jimmy The Greek would take bets.

Despite the breakdown in talks Saturday, Moffett said there still was progress because the players had made significant concessions by dropping their demand compensation come from a player pool, with signing teams not being hurt directly by the loss of a player.

## Connors enjoying role in Davis Cup

**United Press International**  
NEW YORK — For five years, Jimmy Connors was almost an outcast, a man who wouldn't play for his country.

Now, along with many of the other changes that have taken place in both his personal and professional life, this too has changed.

For the first time since 1976, Connors played Davis Cup this past weekend and did so with obvious relish. He won both his singles matches in straight sets from Tomas Smid and Ivan Lendl, helping the United States beat Czechoslovakia, 4-1, and advance to the semifinals.

"It was a lot of fun playing for the team and playing for Arthur," Connors said, referring to Arthur Ashe, team captain. "I haven't played much Davis Cup in the past and I want to help the team win. That's something I've never done, and it would be important to me."

Connors presumably wasn't happy with the previous regime that ran the U.S. Davis Cup team, and it wasn't until the appointment of Ashe he decided he wanted to play.

During the Masters tournament in New York in January, Connors and his wife had dinner with Ashe and his wife. According to Ashe, "Jimmy told me, 'I'm

ready to play Davis Cup again.' I didn't ask him for the reason."

The next step for the United States and, presumably, Connors, is a date with Australia at Portland, Ore., Oct. 2-4.

According to Ashe, the U.S. has its strongest Davis Cup representation going back at least until the 1940s. John McEnroe and Connors are ranked first and third in the world respectively, and Ashe can choose a doubles combination from among Wimbledon champions McEnroe and Peter Fleming, U.S. Open champions Stan Smith and Bob Lutz, who won against Czechoslovakia, or the Mayer brothers, Sandy and Gene.

Although McEnroe and Fleming rank No. 1 in the world in doubles, Ashe hesitated using them against Czechoslovakia because of the oppressive 90-degree heat. McEnroe already was being used in two singles, and Ashe wanted him to have a day of rest in between.



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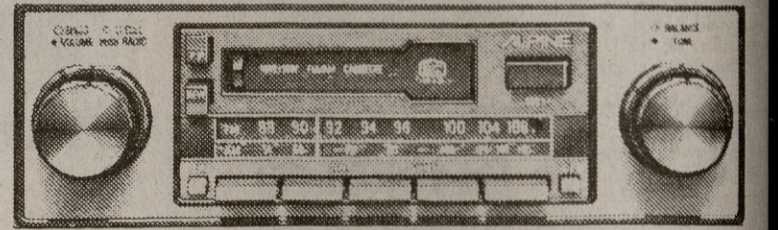
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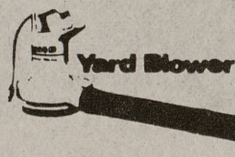
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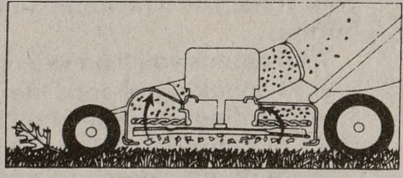
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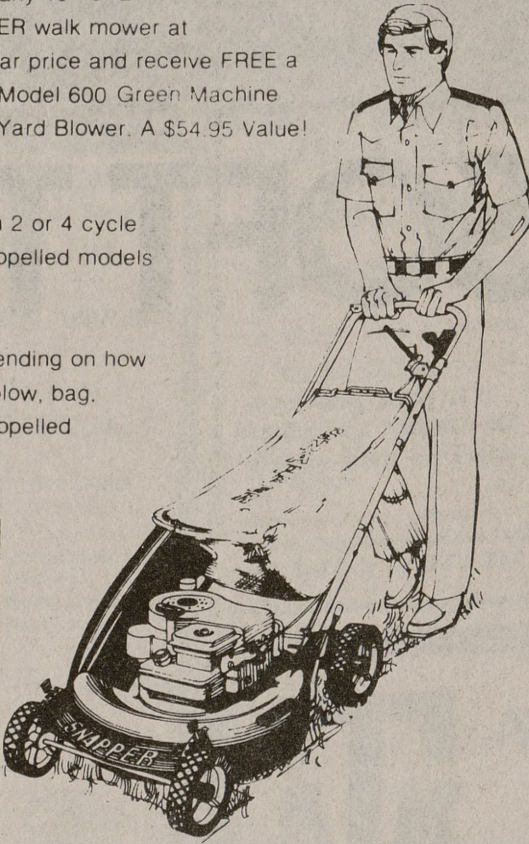
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