

NFL-less day doesn't mean life no longer worth living

The NFL players' strike has entered its third week. So what? The absence of National Football League action hasn't radically affected my life.

You won't find me going through stages of depression or withdrawal on Sunday afternoons or Monday evenings. No, I'm as content watching the University of San Diego lock horns with Occidental University as I ever was in the days of Sunday afternoon football.

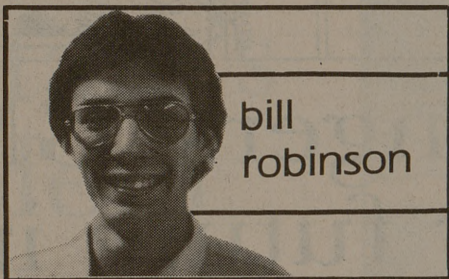
And yes, I had a better time sitting back in the easy chair last night watching Sissy Spacek croon in *Coal Miner's Daughter* than I ever did trying to ignore Howard Cosell's maniacal ravings on Monday Night Football.

There are too many good things in life to waste it worrying about the absence of the NFL.

Making a Charlie's run for a pint of Cookies 'n Cream before settling back to watch a film classic on Ted Turner's SuperStation has at least as much excitement as a game between the Dallas Cowboys and (yawn!) the Los Angeles Rams. Bring back Roger Staubach, Fran Tarkenton and George Blanda.

They were team players. You'd never hear the likes of them complaining that multi-year, million-dollar contracts weren't enough.

Those were the days when players had priorities.



bill robinson

They could be working the assembly lines of Detroit — if they could find work at all — earning a meager \$9 per hour.

Today the NFL Players' Association says the players are not adequately compensated for their services.

They say they're overworked and underpaid.

A one game per week season (for a meager 16 weeks) with no more than four playoff games (all of which carry substantial playoff bonuses) seems a much better arrangement than the grueling six games per week schedule faced by their counterparts in the National Basketball Association or in major league baseball.

They say that 53 percent of the owners' revenues would be a fair settlement. Basketball and baseball players perform on an individually negotiated salary

basis without questioning the owner's rights to earn an income off his investment.

There are millions of unemployed Americans — almost 10 percent of the nation's workers — who would love to have such an overworked, underpaid occupation as the NFL players have.

And those NFL players shouldn't lull themselves into the false security that they won't be joining those millions on the unemployment line.

The NFL is not invincible.

Those who believe the NFL is here to stay need only look at the alternatives to their brand of football.

Die-hard football fans can always tune in the Canadian Football League or the newly discovered Sunday college football action. And the advent of the United States Football League is just around the corner.

Goodbye to the NFL. So long to the mediocrity the league has provided Americans with for the past few years.

Let the members of the NFLPA fall back on their "college educations" and try to make the kind of money they make playing football without giving 1,000 percent greater effort.

Give me Blue Bell and two-hours of Katherine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy. I'm content.

Texas hires coach

United Press International
AUSTIN — Richard Quick was appointed women's swimming coach at the University of Texas Monday, returning to the city where he grew up and learned to swim.

Quick, 39, has guided Auburn University's swimming teams since 1978 and coached numerous world and American record-holders.

Quick, whose appointment is effective immediately, replaces Paul Bergen, who resigned earlier this month after four years at Texas to coach a swimming team in Canada.

GETTING OUT

Rudder Forum 8:00
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Tickets available at MSC box office or at the door

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will have their Apple polishing dessert party on
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(All members please come by the cubicle in 216 MSC to pick up an invitation so you can invite your favorite professor.)

Questions arise in Astro camp about roster spots

United Press International
HOUSTON — Facing its first postseason in three years without a game to play, members of the Houston Astros figure a number of key managerial and roster positions are up for grabs.

Owner John McMullen and general manager Al Rosen must decide what to do with interim manager Bob Lillis, who took over after coaching from the first base box.

McMullen and Rosen must decide whether key relief pitchers Joe Sambito and Dave Smith, injured during the season, will be ready to go next season. The Astros' catcher position also must be filled. Center fielder Tony Scott lost his job during a 239-hitting season.

Six months ago in training camp, McMullen predicted a championship. Instead, the team finished its 21st season in 14th place — 12 games behind the Atlanta Braves.

When in early August it became obvious the pennant was not within their grasp, McMullen fired Manager Bill Virdon and replaced him temporarily with Lillis.

Lillis is rumored to want the job but Sunday he said he had not indicated his intentions to the club.

"We're still on hold. I haven't given them (team executives) any indication either, so it's a standoff," he said. The only other person whose name has surfaced in connection with the job is San Francisco's Joe Morgan.

After their final game Sunday, team members watched from the locker room as former Astro Morgan's home run gave the West Division title to the Braves and former Astro Don Sutton pitched the Milwaukee Brewers to the American League East Division title.

Frank LaCorte, an Astro re-

liever, said he was concerned that the turnover in the club would rise dramatically.

The Astros middle infield solidified over this past season with the development of Dickie Thon, 24, at shortstop and the late-season play of Bill Doran, 24, at second base.

The Astros ended the season with third baseman Ray Knight at first base and second baseman Phil Garner at third.

T.S.O.

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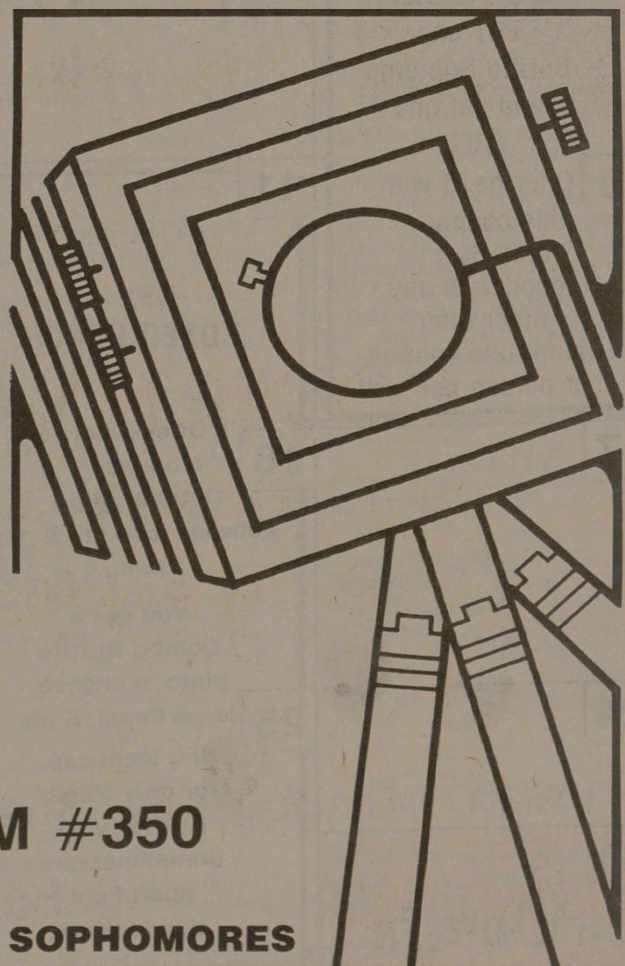
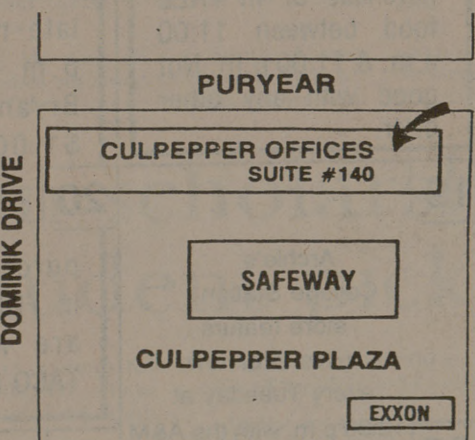
Freshmen	today to Oct. 15
Sophomores	today to Oct. 15
Seniors	Oct. 11 to Dec. 17
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All Others	Nov. 15 to Dec. 17

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