Chicago Tribune, Friday, June 19, 1987 *

SPORTSPEOPLE



By Skip Myslenski & Linda Kay

"A hot coal down the back of my shirt." That, says Mike Ditka, is just what he felt when Jim McMahon criticized his decision to go with Doug Flutie in the playoffs rather than Mike Tomzcak or Steve Fuller. In a chapter inserted in the new paperback version of his autobiography, Ditka says: "It really made me mad. I thought it was unfair to the kid." P.S. The paperback hits the stands in July.

Reincarnation lives

What do you do after you are born in Bologna, Italy, grow up in the United States, kick in the National Football League, appear in a Pro Bowl and then kick a few more years in the United States Football League? Why, of course. You come out of retirement to kick for the Bruisers, Chicago's entry in Arena Football. Well, at least that was the road taken by Nick Mike-Mayer, who in his past life performed for the Falcons, Eagles, Bills and the USFL's San Antonio Gunslingers. His second life begins Saturday night at the Horizon, when the Bruisers play their first game against the Denver Dynamite (ESPN, 8 p.m.). ... And how did Mike-Mayer, who was living in San Antonio, end up in Chicago? At the behest of Dynamite head coach, Tim Marcum, who was an assistant on the Gunslingers when Mike-Mayer kicked for them. Marcum invited him to the league's tryout camp in Chicago, where he performed well enough to be assigned to the Bruisers. ... And how much will Mike-Mayer make in his second life? He, like every other player in the league, is being paid \$500 a game in what Arena Football calls its preview season.

They have their Father's Day celebration all set for Wrigley Field

Our Father's Day weekend entry concerns Wrigley Field, where, if the weather stays hot, it will be difficult to tell whether Joe Mooshil or his daughter, Angele, will be busier.

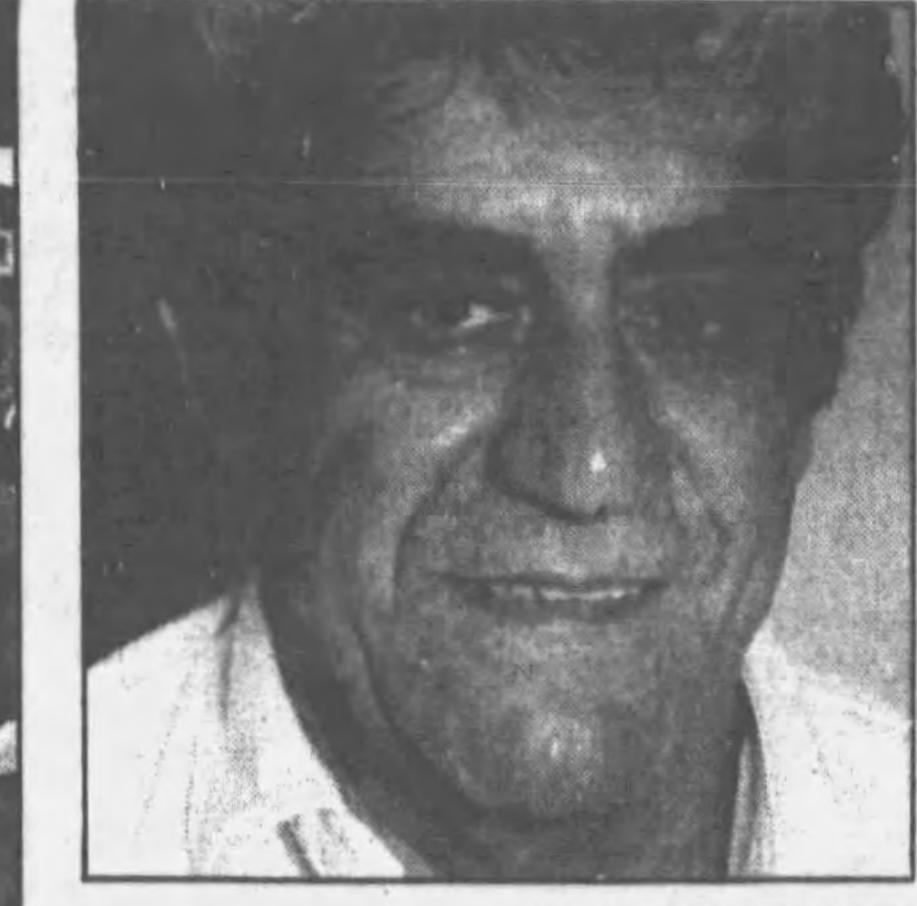
Joe is a longtime sportswriter for Associated Press who commands the respect and admiration of all his press-box associates. Angele, on the other hand, is a favorite of the Bleacher Bums because she's a beer vendor.

The 21-year-old speech communications major at Illinois spends most summer days in the bleachers pushing beer and carrying on a Mooshil tradition started a few years ago by older sister Maria, who is following in her father's footsteps as a reporter for the Arlington Heights Daily Herald.

Although their father's articles about Chicago's sports teams are carried by newspapers across the nation, his byline is seldom seen in Chicago. Nevertheless, the 35-year veteran is well known to many sports fans because of his occasional appearances on WGN



related to Joe Mooshil?" " said Angele, who will be a senior at Illinois this She credits her father with passing down his love for all of Chicago's teams. "I remember him taking me to



Tribune photo by Bob Fila Joe Mooshil and daughter Angele should both have a busy day on Father's Day at Wrigley Field.

Cub games when I was young," she said. "Of course I don't remember any of the games, but I do remember eating all the garbage at the park."

game, he's not the same when he's home watching on TV.

"He's objective, but you'll hear him yelling at the teams when they're blowing it," she said. "He's a real fan, but when it comes to his professional work, he's different."

Angele has worked as a vendor at Wrigley since 1983, and says that since she turned 21 and is now able to sell beer, she has received three marriage proposals by Bleacher Bums. "I took 'em up on all of them," she laughed. "Actually, I usually just tell them, 'What, and take me away from all this excitement?""

Angele said her father likes having his daughters working as vendors at the ballpark. "He says we get streetwise. I think it's great because I get to deal with all kinds of people from all walks of life."

Because it's so close to Father's Day, Angele had a few final words to say about dear old Dad. "He's a great guy, a great man," she said. "He put his three daughters through college, and he's just a wonderful father." Anything else? "Well, he's a loud dad, too."

A new leaf

About 75 people answered Bob Hallberg's cry for help and showed up Wednesday night for a meeting at the University of Illinois-Chicago with the school's new basketball coach. The dilemma? How to pack fannies into the Pavilion. The response? Reports Hallberg: "First off, we got commitments for 300 season tickets. And there were several little groups who want to organize additional meetings with their friends as a follow-up." In addition, a handful of ex-UIC players were present, and Bill Merchantz and Mike Strabawa, who played in the mid 1970s, agreed to organize an alumni game. Lastly, the group adopted the color red and vowed to wear it in abundance on game day. "That way, they'll be identified as hardcore Flames supporters," says Hallberg. "Most of the big programs are doing the same thing."

Starting young

There is good news-and bad-to report when it comes to sports for girls. The bright side: Participation is up 10 times what it was 15 years ago. The notso-bright side: Only 15 percent of the kids who engage in after-school sports are female. Those statistics and more will be considered in Indianapolis this weekend at a national conference entitled "A Sporting Chance for Girls." Former Olympic swimmer Donna de Varona will be there and so will Anita DeFrantz, the first U.S. woman to be named to the International Olympic Committee. Olympic swimmer Nancy Hogshead will hold a clinic, and so will Harlem Globetrotter Lynette Woodard. From 300 to 500 fitness administrators, coaches and teachers are expected to attend the forum, which is unique in that it focuses on girls, not women.

radio's "The Sportswriters."

"I can't say how many people look at my name card and say, 'Are you

Angele said that although her father is objective when he's covering a

Not all the news is bad in the White Sox organization

The White Sox have been heading south in the standings at a steady pace, but fans wishing to stay optimistic may try looking south for hopeful

The Birmingham Barons, the Sox's Double-A farm club in the Southern League, clinched the first-half pennant Thursday with a 41-31 record. The Southern League plays a split season like most minor leagues, and that outcome qualified the Barons for the playoffs regardless of how they 'do in the second half.

So, who were the stars? Birmingham's top hitter was catcher Bill Lindsey, who hit .285. Right behind him was second baseman Manny Salinas at .284. Designated hitter Robert Rollin led the

division with 18 home runs. Unfortunately, Lindsey and Rollin are 27 and 28 years old, respectively, which takes some edge off their futures in the Sox organization. Salinas, however, is 23.

Turning to the pitching staff, Adam Peterson and Tony Menendez, a pair of right-handed starters, ranked the highest in league statistics. Peterson was 7-5 with a 3.21 earned-run average and Menendez was 6-5 with a 3.42 ERA. They are 21 and 22, respectively.

Considering that none of the Barons really tore the league apart, it might just be logical to figure the manager and pitching coach could be the best prospects. You've probably heard of

them: Rico Petrocelli, the former Boston Red Sox slugger, is the manager, and Moe Drabowsky, banished to the minors in the Ken Harrelson purge, handles the pitchers.

Petrocelli and Drabowsky had their hands full, too. Injúries cut the pitching staff down to seven at one point, forcing them to use other players in mop-up situations. Furthermore, the Barons were involved in a tight race and had to win 11 games on their last at-bat.

These guys hustled, too. In one game, the Barons won in the final inning when reserve catcher Jorge Alcazar broke up a routine double play with a slide into second base that allowed the runner on third to score.

BRIEFS

The family of Len Bias, one day shy of the first anniversary of the death of the Maryand basketball star, filed a suit Thursday seeking \$28 million from Bias' agent, insurance company and the Reebok shoe company. The suit was filed in District of Columbia Superior Court by James Bias, Len's father, in the name of his son's estate, charging many of the people who were planning Bias' professional basketball career have failed to live up to financial obligations since his death.

Bias, 22, died of cocaine intoxication two days after his selection by the Boston Celtics in the National Basketball Association draft. The suit names Advantage International, which represented Bias; agent Lee Fentress; Fidelity Security Life Insurance Company, which the suit claims reneged on a \$1 million disability and accidental death policy; and Reebok International Ltd, which allegedly reneged on an unwritten, \$1.6 million endorsement contract.

The Tulane Board of Administrators has called for the resumption of men's basketball. The sport was discontinued April 4, 1985, because of alleged point-shaving and admitted NCAA violations.

Purdue officials say they don't know whether the school is under investigation by the NCAA because of Rod Woodson's admission that he violated rules concerning agents while playing football for the Boilermakers. "To my knowledge they are not investigating the issue," Athletic Director George King said. "The word would have to come from them." Woodson, a first-round draft choice of the Pittsburgh Steelers, has declined to comment since acknowledging that he signed a contract with an agent before his eligibility ended. The NCAA allows undergraduates to consult agents but prohibits them from signing contracts or discussing financial arrangements. The Big 10 ruled Woodson ineligible to compete in track for failing to disclose his relation-

Politician tries to line up votes to play Cubans California State Sen. Quentin Kopp's little-known San Francisco Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee has extended an invitation to Cuba's national baseball team, making a rare visit to the U.S. for the Pan American Games in August, to play exhibition games with the Giants and the Athletics in early September. All previous attempts to set up a game with the Cubans have been foiled, most often, they say, by the U.S. State Department. But the Cubans said extensive negotiations in 1981, when an exhibition game was "almost" arranged with the Houston Astros, fell apart at the last minute because of the objections of other team owners to the Astros' getting all the publicity. Kopp says he has everything in order. "I've talked to both the Giants and the A's about it and they're for it," he said. Kopp has also been in frequent contact with baseball Commissioner Peter Ueberroth. "He's all in favor of it, and he's working on getting the State Department's permission," Kopp said.



Not in the mold

When Darrin Van Horn was just a youngster, recalls his father, G.L., "He used to con all the neighborhood kids into the garage. He'd say, 'C'mon, we're just going to play.' Then he'd proceed to beat the hell out of them." When Darrin entered his first tournament at the age of 15, he won the Police Athletic League National Championships, and when he turned 16, he declared himself a professional. He is now 18, undefeated in 29 bouts and about to make his national TV debut on NBC Sunday against a brawler named Louis Santana (Channel 5, 3:30-5 p.m.). Yeah, it's a familiar tale so far, but it turns out this is not the story of some deprived waif boxing his way out of poverty. For Van Horn, you see, graduated from high school with a 3.3 grade-point average, and he now models and studies veterinary medicine as a fulltime student at the University of Kentucky. So, yes, you might well say it takes all kinds.

News, notes and nonsense

Anchors away: The NBA will fly many prospective first-round picks to its New York draft headquarters for Monday's festivities, but it looks as if everybody's No. 1, Navy's David Robinson, won't be there. As of Thursday afternoon, his boss-the United States Navy—was balking at the idea. . . . Among the others who will be there are two local products: De Paul's Dallas Comegys and Illinois' Ken Norman. ... Sox great Minnie Minoso talks baseball to the faithful in the Blair Chapel of Fourth Presbyterian Church Sunday night at 7. ... The nation's high-school elite are coming to Chicago to compete in the Keebler International Track & Field Meet Saturday afternoon at York High School in Elmhurst. Bear Willie Gault is the honorary chairman of the event, which features six local runners. . . . Meanwhile, running guru Dr. George Sheehan, who is battling cancer, helps inaugurate Lighthouse Place Outlet Center in Michigan City, Ind., Sunday by participating in a noncompetitive 5-kilometer jog and walk. ... The American Sailing Association offers free sailing lessons to those attending the Wooden Boat Festival and Sailboat Show on Navy Pier this weekend. And finally: Jerry Pritikin, Wrigley Field's Bleacher Preacher, called Thursday with big plans for the afternoon game. To greet the Phillies' new manager, Pritikin was preparing a banner reading: "Welcome back, Lee Elia. This bleep's for you."

Bears coach Mike Ditka (left) and Ray Jauch, coach of the Arena Football League's Chicago Bruisers, chat dur-

ing a golf game at Bob-O Link in Highland Park.

100 years later, softball commemorates its 1st game

bration of the 100th anniver-

On Thanksgiving, 1887, a

1887-1987

Chicago is getting a monument to one of its greatest



Mark

vard-Yale football game. A boxing glove was thrown and

ship with agent Norby Walters.

Gifts to scandal-plagued Southern Methodist are down by more than \$4 million, according to school officials. But they attributed the 15 percent decline more to the sagging Texas economy than to the football recruiting scandal.

Seattle Seahawks President Mike McCormack expects linebacker Brian Bosworth of Oklahoma to sign a contract before training camp opens July 21. "I think Brian Bosworth is a very intelligent man," McCormack said. "When he hears all the options that are available to him and weighs them, then I think we can come to an agreement." Seattle won a lottery last Friday and selected Bosworth in a supplemental draft. Bosworth has said he doesn't want to play for the Seahawks, but will consider one offer from them.

Prosecutors say they have a tape recording of one of the defendants in the Phoenix Suns drug case admitting he supplied cocaine to and received betting advice from National Basketball Association players. James Keppel, a deputy: Maricopa County attorney, said the tape was made April 9, when former bartender Charles Keenan wore a hidden microphone and recorded two conversations with nightclub manager James Jordan. In the first conversation, Keppel said, Jordan admitted he supplied guard Walter Davis with a small quantity of cocaine and placed a \$200 bet on the Feb. 21 Milwaukee Bucks-Suns game after receiving betting advice from a player. In the second conversation, Keppel said, Jordan admitted using two lines of cocaine with an unidentified player who was visiting the nightclub, using drugs with former Phoenix player Mike Bratz and receiving an eighth of an ounce of cocaine and buying marijuana from waiter Terrance Kelly.

A Daytona Beach man bilked investors out of nearly \$150,000 by falsely claiming to represent major professional sports figures and promising to set up sports halls of fame in large cities, according to Pennsylvania Atty. Gen. LeRoy Zimmerman. Former heavyweight boxing champion Floyd Patterson and ex-Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Ron Jaworski were among those who lost money in the scam operated by Seymour Cohen, Zimmerman said. Cohen was arrested in Florida after being indicted by a Pennsylvania grand jury. To attract investors, Cohen claimed to represent baseball great Willie Mays, basketball players Jamaal Wilkes and Nate Archibald, Dallas Cowboys running back Tony Dorsett, tennis players Evonne Goolagong and Rod Laver, golfer Lanny Wadkins and former hockey goalie Rogie Vachon. He also falsely claimed to be associated with the New York Mets and the Notre Dame football program.

Tribune photo by Walter Kale

joys of summer: softball, which turns 100 years old this month.

The site where the first fateful swing was taken, now part of the grounds of Michael **Reese Hospital and Medical** Center, will have its very own marker.

"It's going to stand about 3 feet high,'' Reese spokeswoman Holly Rae said. "It will look like a softball on a pedestal."

The hospital got involved when the Amateur Softball group of friends were waiting Association decided to place at the Farragut Boat Club, the monument at the site of 3016 Lake Park Ave., for the the game's inception in celefinal score of the annual Har-

deflected by a stick, and softball was created. The sportsmen stuck around

to play, although the name they gave their new sport was "indoor baseball." George Hancock, a participant in the initial game, devised rules the next spring and moved the game outdoors. In addition to the monument's unveiling, runners will begin a relay run to carry "the official softball torch" to the National Softball Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City. It all begins at 10 a.m. June 29, close to the spot where the game began.

Former Olympians Scott Johnson and Tim Daggett placed first and third in the compulsory portion of U.S. Gymnastics Championships in Kansas City. Johnson had 57.20 points. Charles Lakes was second at 56.15. Daggett was third at 55.55. Kristie Phillips, 15, making her debut in senior competition, led the women's division with a 46.44. Melissa Marlowe was second at 45.84, and Hope Spivey was third at 45.78.

Compiled by Mike Conklin, John Dowd and Rich Lorenz from staff, wire reports.

