## Padres, Tigers square off in Series opener

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The Detroit Tigers were unbeatable in the early going of the regular season and swept the American League playoffs. If they continue that trend the World Series will be over in a hurry.

It could happen, although Detroit Manager Sparky Anderson isn't counting on it.

He feels the emotion of a seven-game series makes it too difficult to think about a sweep—even though his club brushed off the Kansas City Royals in three games to win the American League Championship Series.

"I still think 162 games determines the best team in baseball," Anderson said Monday while the Tigers practiced at Jack Murphy Stadium where Game One is scheduled for Tuesday night. "Nobody can take away those 104 wins from my players, whether it be San Diego or Chicago."

The Tigers' 104-58 mark is a club record, one game better than the 1968 team which also was the last Detroit club to play in the World Series.

"We've had pressure all

season long," said right-hander Jack Morris, who will go against San Diego left-hander Mark Thurmond in Game One. "After we went 35-5 from the start, people said we weren't really that good of a team and maybe we weren't, but we didn't fold after that and we didn't fold under the pressure all season long."

The Tigers are a team that has been meticulously put together by Anderson and General Manager Bill Lajoie.

Anderson, with his "My way or the highway" philosophy, shipped out players like Steve Kemp, Jason Thompson and Champ Summers — who landed with the Padres. He built the team on a foundation of shortstop Alan Trammell, second baseman Lou Whitaker, catcher Lance Parrish and pitchers Morris and Dan Petry.

He was patient with slugger Kirk Gibson and squeezed all the talent there was from veteran pitcher Milt Wilcox.

Lajoie dealt for outfielders Chet Lemon, Larry Herndon and Ruppert Jones. He also engineered the late spring trade that brought relief ace Willie Hernandez and first baseman Dave Bergman to the Tigers.

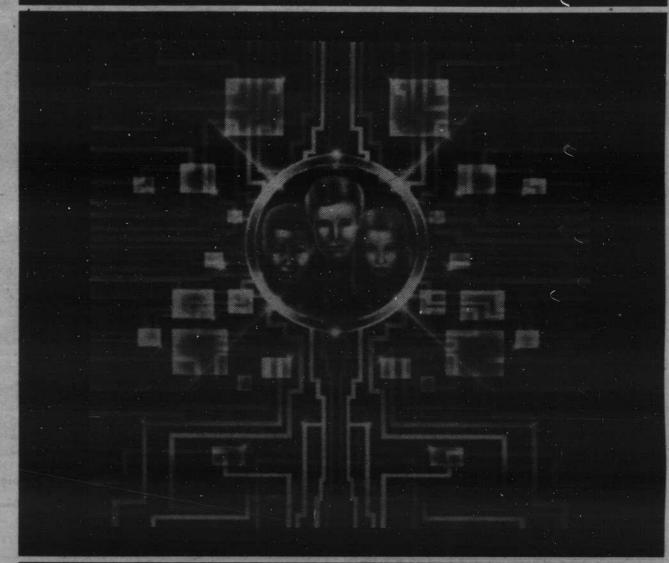
Lajoie also slugged it out with

17 other big league teams and signed free agent Darrell Evans over the winter.

"This team will always be the most special to me," Anderson

said. "When I got to Cincinnati, there, were four future Hall of Famers already waiting for me. But here, all we had was some kids and a lot of hope.

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## 49ers drop N.Y., 31-10

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Joe Montana threw two touchdown passes and Dana McLemore returned a punt 79 yards for another score as the undefeated San Francisco 49ers struck three times in the opening 7½ minutes and routed the New York Giants 31-10 in a National Football League game Monday night.

Montana teamed with speedster Renaldo Nehemiah on a 59-yard scoring play and flipped a 1-yard TD toss to tight end John Frank as the 49ers scored on their first two possessions.

McLemore's punt return turned the nationally televised game into a laugher minutes later. He fielded a Dave Jennings' punt at his 21 after being bumped by Terry Kinard of the Giants, broke toward the center of the field and outran the rest of the New York defenders down the right sidelines.

Just seven minutes and 33 seconds had elapsed, but the Giants, 3-3, never were close again.

Montana, who for the second

week wore a flak jacket to protect a rib injury, added a third touchdown pass on an 8-yard swing pass to fullback Roger Craig in the second quarter as San Francisco took a 28-3 halftime lead. The 6-0 start is the best in club history and keeps the 49ers alongside Miami as the only undefeated teams in the league.

Montana left the game early in the fourth quarter after completing 15 of 24 passes for 207 yards.

The Giants, embarrassed for the second consecutive week, were coming off a humiliating 33-12 loss to the Los Angeles Rams.

Ali Haji-Shiekh, mired in a season-long slump, booted a 20-yard field goal for New York late in the first quarter, but missed a 30-yarder late in the second quarter.

It apparently was all the crowd of 70,000-plus at Giants Stadium could stand. Many left rather than stay for the second half.

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