



Sports off Campus

By Jerry Ulmer
Staff writer

Twins beat the system...

Reagan phones World Series champs

The Minnesota Twins have just won the World Series. The Metrodome erupts. The celebration on the field lasts nearly 15 minutes before it shifts to the clubhouse. The champagne is flowing. The phone rings. It's for Manager Tom Kelly. It's the President of the United States.

Ronald Reagan: Tom Kelly?
TK: Yes?

RR: This is President Ronald Reagan calling from Washington.

TK: Hello Mr. President. We heard you'd be calling.

RR: Well, Tom, I have to be honest with you. I had some trouble getting through. Somehow I called Tiger Stadium by mistake. Boy that Sparky really had me going for awhile.

TK: Is that so, sir?

RR: Well... yes. But, I finally got a hold of you and I have to say congratulations. What a fantastic year you had. You have great new uniforms and you

presented yourself very well on television. You've captured America's imagination by proving once again that a mediocre team can still win the World Series.

"... somehow I called Tiger Stadium by mistake."

TK: I wouldn't say mediocre.

RR: Well... okay Tom, you've really given the upper midwest a season it won't soon forget. What a treat it must be for those... a... fans.

TK: It's a tremendous thrill, Mr. President. This area hasn't had a championship team since the Minneapolis Lakers won the NBA title in the '60's. These fans really deserve it.

RR: That's a long time, Tom. But, well... a... isn't Minnesota kind of a backward state anyhow? I mean, well, they voted

for MONDALE. And, another thing, I hear the fans didn't storm the field after the last out. That's kind of peculiar, Tom. Almost unAmerican.

TK: They're the greatest fans in the world and they showed a lot of class. They let our guys have some fun, sir.

RR: Well... whatever you say, Tom. Those fans MUST really mean a lot to you, because you hardly ever lose a game in that hokey little tent you play in. Tom... with that huge glad bag fence, it looks to me like you're playing arena baseball. And you finished something like 85-5 at home this year. Jimminy Christmas! If I didn't know better, well, I'd guess that there's some kind of covert operation going on.

TK: No there isn't, sir. But, could we use Ollie next year?

RR: Well, I'm afraid I don't follow you on that one Tom. You know, I can't help but think if

you guys had played four on the road in this series that the Cards would have, well, cleaned your carpet. Don't you think, Kelly? You know, you were lucky to be in the series anyway. Winning 85 games was enough to back into the playoffs in that panty-waist division of yours. Then you ran into the Tigers, who were worn out from fighting the Blue Jays... 85 wins! What is that, fifth best

baseball games for WHO radio in Des Moines off the ticker-tape, and one night the ticker-tape machine broke down, and by golly, I must have had the batter foul off...

TK: Foul off about a dozen pitches waiting for the ticker-tape machine to get fixed. I've heard the story before, sir. All things considered, Mr. President, I think we did a better job reboun-

"I guess you face more important problems than me, like jock-itch."

in the league? You backed in, Kelly. You beat the system. Gosh, I... well I envy you.

TK: We proved we belong in this series, sir. It was an exciting series. How about tonight and that crash at home plate?

RR: There is nothing wrong with the economy.

TK: What? Didn't you see that collision at home plate?

RR: Well... I would have, but Nancy got a hold of the remote and kept switching from the game to "High Plains Drifter," being that the series has been kind lame this year. Honestly, I don't remember exactly where I was when it happened. Do you remember exactly where you were when it happened?

TK: I was in the dugout.

RR: Well, alright Tom... Have it your way. You know, Tom, I remember when I was doing

ding from a deficit than you have.

RR: Well, now there you go again, Tom. Oh, sure, it was just a matter of time before you threw THAT in my face. You're a big man now, Tom. I guess you face more important problems than me, like jock-itch. I think I better get going.

TK: We can continue talking when we visit the White House next week, sir.

RR: Well I'll have to check my schedule. Once again, Tom, congratulations on your accomplishment. I know it's a thrill for all of the people up there. After winning the series I'm sure you guys are setting your sights on that .500 mark again next year. You remember me when you're rubbing elbows with the Mariners, Tom. Then we'll see who's tasting tobacco juice. Click. Hmmmmmm.

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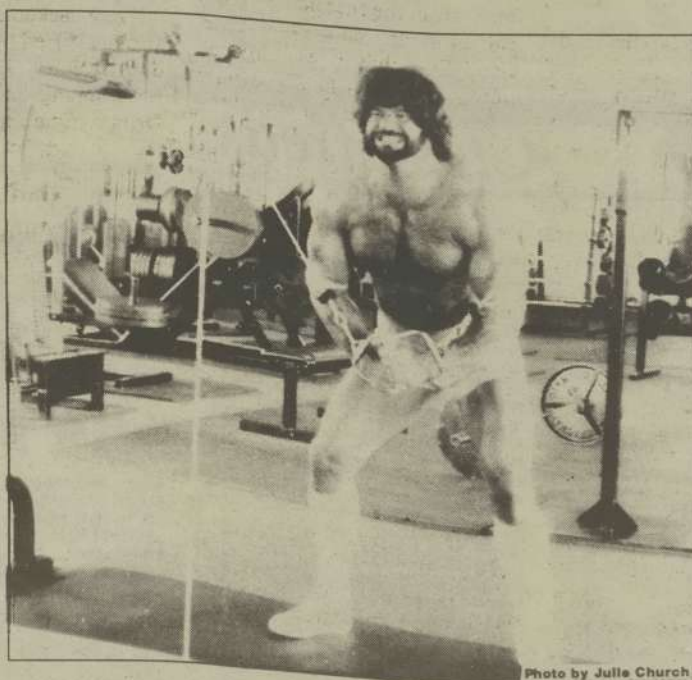


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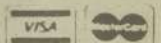
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