

# Groups Enthused By Multi-Purpose Stadium Proposal

Editor's note: The Jackson County Court recently recommended that the county build a ball park, seating between 2,500 and 3,000 and costing about \$78,000, with an accent on youth. The Citizens' Multi-Purpose Stadium committee has urged the court to build a stadium, for the use of all groups, with an eventual seating capacity of approximately 23,000. The following article is the first in a series of four, explaining the multi-purpose stadium program and the county court proposal. John Weisbrod, chairman of the committee, prepared this installment.

Although the idea of the multi-purpose stadium in Jackson county is by no means new, it has been only in the past three years that a committee has been active in seeking to have the idea become a reality. Much money and many hours of volunteer effort have gone into securing facts, drawings and cost estimates. Consultations have been held with persons active in the operation of such facilities and with professional groups and organizations which would use the facility. Local organizations and groups, which would feasibly use the facility have been contacted.

All were enthusiastic about the possibility of such a plant being built in the county. Not one single group indicated they would not use the park if it were built.

Signatures Gathered  
Petitions with more than 600 signatures were gathered in a short time. Many drawings were made, with various interested groups giving and

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**WAR DRAMA UNFOLDING** — While the Confederates were invading Maryland in the East, another war drama was unfolding across Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky. The Confederates were making a desperate attempt to win back some of the territory they had lost in these states. The Blue and Grey clashed at Corinth, Miss., on Oct. 3, 1862. The battle lasted two days and was a victory over the Union. Confederate forces were forced back and Southern casualties were high, yet, as the fighting died out at Corinth, another Southern force was knocking at the door of Louisville. This drawing, from the Library of Congress collection, shows the battle at Corinth on Oct. 3, 1862.

## The Battle for Mississippi

**By MERTON T. AKERS**  
UPI Correspondent

While the Confederates were invading Maryland in the East, another big war drama unfolded across three states in the West.

Here in Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky, the Confederates made a desperate bid in the fall of 1862 to win back the territory they had lost since Forts Henry and Donelson fell to Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant in the spring and to Union armies which had pierced all the way into northern Mississippi.

The Confederates laid their plans carefully late in the summer. Two armies would strike north into Tennessee and then on into Kentucky, even to the Ohio river if possible. That would ease the pressure on Tennessee, where Nashville, the capital, was held by the Federals. But first they would try to knock out the Union forces in Mississippi.

The South's bid for a quick victory nearly succeeded. At one point its invasion lapped at the Ohio river at Cincinnati, Ky., across from Covington. Other advance gray detachments drove close to Lou-

isville, Ky., on the Ohio. But from those two high points, the invasion ebbed back into Tennessee where it had started.

**Campaign Splinters**  
The campaign against Union forces in Mississippi splintered at Iuka and Corinth.

Both sides were suffering from divided commands.

The big Union army—more than 100,000 men—which had been assembled in Mississippi after the battle of Shiloh, was broken up in July when Maj. Gen. Henry W. Halleck was called to Washington as overall commander.

Grant retained the Army of the Tennessee, which was posted from Memphis south to Corinth.

Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell took his Army of the Ohio east to threaten Chattanooga, Tenn., a key point on the Tennessee river.

Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard, Confederate commander after Shiloh, was succeeded by Beauregard's displaced President Jefferson Davis.

Bragg and Buell were the opponents who raced north across Tennessee and Kentucky in the fall of '62 and then retraced their steps in opposite roles.

The opponents in the Mississippi end of the Confederate effort were Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans for the Union and Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn and Sterling Price for the South.

Price pushed his 17,000 men into Iuka, Miss., a small town on the Memphis & Chattanooga railroad about 20 miles east of Corinth and near the Alabama border.

Grant planned to snap up Price at Iuka before Van Dorn could arrive from the south. Rosecrans commanded one wing from Grant and Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord the other.

**Met Confederates**  
Late on Sept. 19, 1862, Rosecrans, advancing on Iuka from the south with about 9,000 men, ran into the Confederates outside of town.

The fighting lasted two hours until dark and was extremely heavy. At times units fought hand-to-hand.

By some trick of acoustics, Ord, a few miles away, heard no firing—he was supposed to attack on that signal—and did not get into the fight. The next day he marched into Iuka with his hands playing.

But Price had abandoned the field overnight to join Van Dorn and the battle was over when Ord arrived.

Casualties were heavy considering the members engaged. Rosecrans lost 782—144 killed, 598 wounded and 40 missing to Price's 1,516—263 killed, 692 wounded and 561 missing.

Rosecrans now moved his command northwest to Corinth where he strengthened the fortifications.

Van Dorn and Price moved in on Corinth with 22,000 men late in September. Rosecrans opposed them with about 21,000 troops.

The battle of Corinth started early on Oct. 3 and lasted two days.

Van Dorn's divisions attacked hit two Federal first outside the inner defenses. The blue-coats fought stubbornly but had to fall back behind the fortifications.

Price then sent his divisions against the Union center about 1 p. m.

The Federals waited until the Confederates broke out of a woods and advanced over an open field. When they reached point blank range the Federals poured in a deadly fire, including artillery from

entrenched positions on the left.

Price's men retreated, reformed and tried again, but were repulsed.

**Federals Sent Running**  
The third charge sent some Federals running but the line held until fighting died out at nightfall.

Van Dorn felt he had another thrust would bring victory.

It was 9 a. m. before the Confederates attacked on Oct. 4. They hit first on the Federal right. Again Price's troops led the attack, broke through and penetrated into the town of Corinth, fighting along streets and around houses.

Rosecrans saw the break and rode among his panicked troops. His hat was shot away. He "fought like a private with the flat of his sword and fairly drove them to stand."

Whitelaw Reid, a war correspondent wrote, "Then came a quick rally which his magnificent bearing inspired . . . and the charging column was speedily swept back outside the entrenchments."

At the same time the Confederates also hit the Federal left. They stormed Battery Robinette, an entrenched artillery position, and some of the foremost ranks spilled over the top of the works but were driven out by a bayonet charge.

Back in the woods they reformed and, led by Col. W. P. Rogers of the 2nd Texas, they swarmed over the works despite Rogers' heavy losses. Colonel Rogers carried a flag to the top of the rampart. A Union drummer boy picked him off with a single revolver shot. His men raced on, about 100 reaching the Corinth public square. But then they were beaten back into the woods.

**Retreat Ordered**  
That was enough for Van Dorn. Soon after 7 p. m. he ordered a retreat.

After the battle Rosecrans rode passed a wounded Arkansas lieutenant.

"General, you licked us good," the lieutenant said, "but we gave you the best we had on the ranch."

At Battery Robinette, Rosecrans paused and said to his men there:

"I take off my hat in the presence of men as brave as these."

Union casualties were: 355 killed; 1,841 wounded, 324 missing. The Confederate losses were 473 killed; 1,997 wounded and 1,763 missing.

But as the firing died out at Corinth this day of 94 degree heat, Braxton Bragg was knocking at the door of Louisville and there was something akin to panic along the Ohio.

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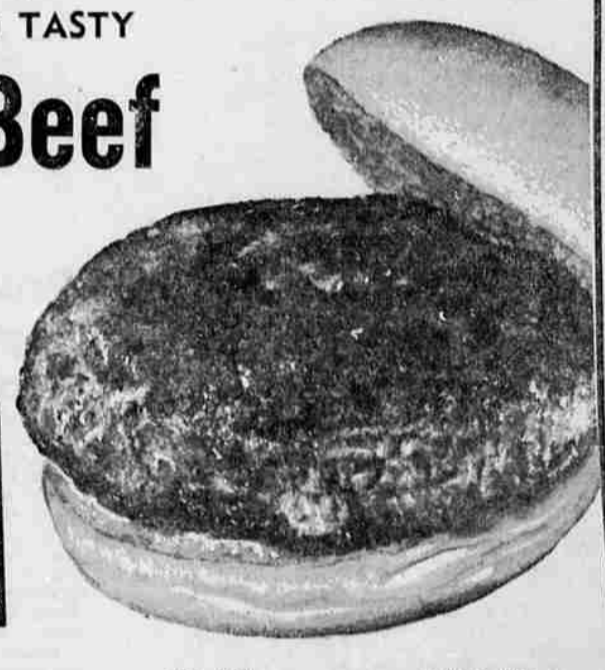
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