

St. Joe's 70 Chronicles Sept.7-13, 1969

By Tom Bodle

The second week of September brought a degree of normalcy to the life of a Viking. After a summer of historic events, a school year introducing a plethora of changes and the ultra excitement of "Euclid week", students settled into their daily routines.

Even current events lacked anything impactful during the week. Key news in sports was highlighted by the U.S. Tennis Open and the winding down of the major league baseball season. Australians dominated the U.S. Open as Rod Laver and Margaret Court took the crowns. The Baltimore Orioles clinched the American League East, the earliest of the divisions. The New York Mets showed that they were to be reckoned with as they moved into first place in the National League East for the first time. Individually, Bobby Bonds entered the MLB record books as the fourth player in history to achieve the 30-30 plateau (home runs with stolen bases.)

Academic excellence at St. Joe's was illustrated this week as six of the class of '70 were announced as National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalists (Tony Palella, Dennis Smith, Mark Bezik, Jim Meil, Max Gorenssek and Don Reed.)

The Cross Country team began its quest for another state title. On September 10th, the harriers won their third consecutive meet, at Shaker Heights. Jim Stanley and Ken Udovic paced the early victories.

The Viking gridders built on their Euclid victory with a solid 14-0 win over Toledo St. Francis. Kevin Flynt cashed in on touchdown runs of 7 and 40 yards to provide the offense. The defense was stellar for the second week in a row limiting the Knights to 137 yards in offense.



Bobby Bonds, circa 1969



The Big Brother program capped the week off with “Freshman Fun Day” for the class of ‘73. Don Daily and Ed Bestvina organized competitions in football, basketball, relays and an obstacle course for the 75 who attended. The cafeteria staff came in and served dinner.

Mr. John McMahon performed one of his famous comedy skits to entertain the frosh. Big Brother president, Tom Bodle, completed the day with a presentation of “what it means to be a Viking”, leading into a spirited rally. An exhausted, but exuberant group of freshmen walk out into the sunset of the second week in the Viking Village. #

