

2-D Sunday, May 2, 1965 DETROIT FREE PRESS

### STARS HAVE THEIR DAY

## Flint Central, Rouge Win Central Relay Titles

**BY PAUL MCGHEE**  
**Flint News-Examiner Staff Writer**

**BY TERRY RAY** — There was a touch of individual brilliance to highlight a scrappy relay race at the annual Central Michigan University Relays.

Flint Central won Class A and Rouge in Class B were crowned team champions, but the team brought in a class group of individual performers.

North Michigan relayed its success in the team event in 1964, but this year it showed less great effort by Dave Rosenberg and Bruce Wilbur.

Flint Central came on with such force on the mile that it left the field at 1:13.4.

**CLASS A**  
The 4x400 relay was won by Flint Central in 3:42.4. The runners were: Dave Rosenberg, Bruce Wilbur, Mike Smith and Yogi Berra.

**CLASS B**  
The 4x400 relay was won by Rouge in 4:12.4. The runners were: Mike Smith, Yogi Berra, Mike Smith and Yogi Berra.

**FLINT CENTRAL** came on with such force on the mile that it left the field at 1:13.4.

**CLASS A**  
The 4x400 relay was won by Flint Central in 3:42.4. The runners were: Dave Rosenberg, Bruce Wilbur, Mike Smith and Yogi Berra.

**CLASS B**  
The 4x400 relay was won by Rouge in 4:12.4. The runners were: Mike Smith, Yogi Berra, Mike Smith and Yogi Berra.

**Lyall Smith**  
*It's Quiet at Home With Yogi Gone*

**AND WHO WOULD YOU SAY** is stuck with the quietest job in the most hectic of baseball lineups?

None, it's not the vendor who draws the untimely check of trying to peddle ice cream bars to customers already chilled.

None, it's not the isolated character perched all by his lonesome up inside the crowded scoreboard watching somebody do something down on the field.

None, it's not even the utility worker assigned to the upper deck in right on an afternoon when every fan in the stadium can be counted on to sit 70 of them are laid-back and the dugouts.

The quietest job in baseball belongs to that stalwart and with the eyes of an eagle and the wisdom of a Solomon who calls 'em on as he sees 'em at home plate.

"I mean, of course, when all goes well and there are no arguments," someone one of the stakeholders named John (Red) Flaherty, who is Irish out of Massachusetts and 37 years on American League territory.

It is John's contention, and other umpire echo him, that home plate can be a very quiet spot indeed, despite the fact that it is the only one on the field where three men get together at the same time.

It wasn't always that way. Not when Yogi Berra was catching in All precincts. Not when Ted Williams was playing.

"Both of them liked to talk when they were up there at the plate," says Flaherty. "Especially Yogi. It didn't matter if he was there to hit or as a catcher. He liked to chat."

**TED WOULD HAVE NONE OF IT**

**TEDDY** WAS A BERTHOFF in Berra's company and Flaherty is one of many who sometimes wonder why some catches haven't taken up talking when the Yogi-man left off.

"He knew what he was doing," Red insists. "There he always was a friendly guy. But there was more to it than just that Yogi was smart enough to know that if he could distract a batter just a little bit, that if he could get him talking back to him, he was weakening the guy as a hitter."

Williams was a notable exception. He would exchange amenities when he felt like it. If he had failed to hit the previous at-bat, he'd ask if the ball he had swung at was a strike. Might even make small talk.

"But when he stepped into the batter's box, that ended," remembers Red. "Ted was all business. Not even Yogi could make him talk. Red'd get great stories of how Yogi'd get the message."

But nobody ever faulted Berra for trying. Especially the umpire fans of him. In Flaherty's book, the Boston slugger was the perfect example of concentration. And he had the eye to go with it.

**Sticks, Shoes . . . and Strikes**

**UMPIRES HAVE ACHIEVED** so that, just as they are on the premise that it's strange more catches don't try to cut into a batter's concentration these days.

As they see it, a batter's job is to out-guess the pitcher to figure what he's doing to three before he actually cuts loose with the baseball.

"Maybe someone had the proper word," Flaherty amends. "Maybe a better way to put it would be to say that his job is to anticipate what pitch he will get. And then be able to adjust at the last second if he gets a different one."

Berra's idea was to try to get the batter's mind off the subject, to throw up a sort of mental roadblock before he could cut into the pitcher's concentration around in the

**Class A**  
The 4x400 relay was won by Flint Central in 3:42.4. The runners were: Dave Rosenberg, Bruce Wilbur, Mike Smith and Yogi Berra.

**Class B**  
The 4x400 relay was won by Rouge in 4:12.4. The runners were: Mike Smith, Yogi Berra, Mike Smith and Yogi Berra.

# CMU Relays 5-1-1965

Clipped By:



jeffhollobaugh  
Fri, Jan 11, 2019