

# Mets Turn Laughter Into 1969 World Crown

By GEORGE MINOT JR.

NEW YORK (PTS) — The New York Mets, of course, won again Thursday and the baseball world and the common man have a new champion.

The end result of 100 years of professional ball, the Mets gained inspiration from a little bit of shoe polish to overcome the Baltimore Orioles for the fourth straight time, 5-3, and capture the World Series in five games.

Once the laughing stock of all sports, and a 100- to -1 shot this season after finishing ninth in the National League in 1968, the New Yorkers were grabbing it all in the eighth year of their existence.

They were carrying the standard for losers and have - hots everywhere, as well as for the record Shea Stadium crowd of 57,397, which stampeded onto the field for impromptu demonstrations after the demolition of the once - proud American League champions.

Showers of paper and confetti, blaring horns and embracing strangers revived memories of V-E Day and V-J Day in midtown Manhattan.

The Mets teased the Orioles into a false sense of security in the finale, allowing them to savor a 3-0 lead be-

## New Yorkers Polish Off Baltimore, 5 to 3

fore getting down to business in the late innings. The Mets, obviously guided all season from above, below or beyond, received welcome help with the first hitter they sent against Oriole lefty Dave McNally in the sixth.

Cleon Jones claimed he was hit by a low pitch; Plate Umpire Lou DiMuro said no. But an occult power guided the ball into the New York dugout, to the Mets' catcher, Jerry Grote. He noted a tell - tale mark of black shoe polish on the ball, proving that it had struck Jones on the foot, and presented the evidence to Manager Gil Hodges. Hodges carried the blemished baseball to DiMuro, who waved Jones to first base.

Thus inspired, and reassured that unexplained forces still backed them, the Mets were devastating. Donn Clendenon, the next hitter, slugged his third Series homer, into the left - field stands; Al Weis led off the seventh inning with a game - tying home run, the first he ever hit here, and eighth - inning doubles by Jones and Ron

Swoboda and two Baltimore errors put the miracle men over the top.

The Orioles packed all of their goodies — their three runs and three of their five hits — into the third inning and threatened to make it a short afternoon's work for New York starter Jerry Koozman. Mark Belanger led off with a looping single and then Pitcher McNally performed a feat that no Oriole had accomplished for the previous 33 innings — an extra - base hit. He homered into the Baltimore Bulpen in left.

Two outs later Frank Robinson sent a ball over the bleacher seats in left - center field for his one and only RBI of the Series.

The only hit thereafter against the dart - throwing Koozman, who had beaten McNally, 2-1, in the second game, was bad - bounce single by Boog Powell in the sixth inning. And that came with two outs.

Left-hander Koozman struck out McNally and Robinson the next time around, following their homers, but the fanning of Robinson took many minutes to complete.

The Orioles' best hitter and team leader said he was struck by a pitch in the sixth inning, but DiMuro called it a foul tip, for strike two. Robinson and Manager Earl Weaver, who had been ejected from Wednesday's game, argued hotly and vainly.

Koozman kept the fans poised for a few extra moments by walking the first batter, Frank Robinson, in the ninth. Then the outs came quickly. Powell forced Robinson; Brooks Robinson, normally a clutch man, ended with 1 - for - 19 in the Series by flying to right and Dave Johnson did the same to left.

Jones squeezed the ball and sprinted toward his pitcher, with all the other Mets. Koozman was mobbed by his teammates and the many young fans who vaulted the railings. There were war dancers and souvenir hunters and the Met players barely made it safely into their dugout.

Metomania had gripped the nation's largest city. The little people everywhere could rejoice.



**FREE RIDE HOME** — New York Mets pitcher Jerry Koozman gets a victory dance with battery-mate Jerry Grote on the pitcher's mound yesterday after the Mets had taken the World Series crown over the Baltimore Orioles. Not waiting to cut in on the victory waltz is Third Baseman Ed Charles (left). The scene took place seconds before thousands of screaming fans took over the Shea Stadium field from the ballplayers and grappled for souvenirs which included home plate. (UPI Telephoto)

## Swoboda Revels In Win

By HAL BROCK

NEW YORK (AP) — No matter how many times the New York Mets repeat as division winners, National League pennant winners and world champions, they can never match 1969 for Ron Swoboda.

"This is the first one and it will always be the sweetest one for me," said Swoboda, who doubled home the tie-breaking run and then scored another in the 5-3 fifth game World Series wrap-up victory over Baltimore Thursday.

"WE CAME so far, so fast, it's almost unbelievable," said Swoboda, borrowing one of the length list of adjectives which have been used over and over again to describe the Mets.

"We weren't supposed to do anything this year . . . but we did it all. We're the world champs," bubbled Swoboda, the champagne running down his face.

"We wanted to win it here in New York and we did. This is our third celebration this year and everyone of them right here. We wanted to win it here for our fans and for ourselves."

The love affair between Swoboda and the fans wasn't always so smooth. In fact, earlier this season, there was a wide split. The fans rode the right fielder hard during one stretch in June when he was in a deep batting slump.

"I would have booed too if I was them," said Swoboda. I deserved it. But you know they don't boo out of meanness, they just want you to do better. I knew that and I guess there's no booing now."

SWOBODA was right on that count. There was nothing but unrestrained joy all around Shea Stadium after his double brought Cleon Jones home with the tie-breaking run in the eighth inning.

"It wasn't the hardest ball I ever hit," Swoboda admitted, "but it sure was in the right spot."

Swoboda's drive fell inside the left field foul line with Don Buford forced to take the ball on the short hop. "I thought he might have a chance at it," said Swoboda, "but it would taken an extraordinary play. Then I thought they might have a chance to catch Jonesy at the plate."

As Jones crossed home with the Mets' lead run, Swoboda pulled into second. "I almost ran clear out of the ball park," he laughed. "Then, I thought to myself, 'That's it. They're sunk now.'"

## Who's Next?

NEW YORK (AP) — Official box score of the fifth game of the 1969 World Series:

Baltimore	New York
ab r h	ab r h
4 0 0 Buford lf	4 0 0 Agee cf
1 0 0 Blair cf	1 0 0 Harrison ss
3 1 1 Robinson rf	3 1 1 C. Jones lf
0 0 0 Powell 1b	0 0 0 Cindron 1b
0 0 0 Salton sr	0 0 0 Swoboda rf
4 0 0 Robinson 2b	4 0 0 Charis 3b
4 0 0 Johnson 2b	4 0 0 Grote c
3 0 0 Eichhorn c	3 0 0 Weis 2b
1 0 0 McNally p	1 0 0 Koozman p
0 0 0 Watt g	0 0 0 Watt g
22 3 5 Totals	22 5 7 Totals
Baltimore	New York
003 000 000-3	002 002 12x-5
New York	

RBI — F. Robinson, McNally 2, Clendenon 2, Swoboda, Weis 2, Powell, Watt, LOB — Baltimore 3, New York 6. 2B Koozman, C. Jones, Swoboda, HR — McNally 1, F. Robinson 1, Clendenon 1.

**Career Ends** CINCINNATI (AP) — The college football career was over for Xavier University senior Joe Ohradzansky, an alternate end from Cleveland St. Edward High School. Ohradzansky suffered a fractured right ankle in practice.



**EXPENSIVE SHAMPOO** — Relief pitcher Tug McGraw of the New York Mets, gets a champagne shampoo from teammate Ed Kranepool following the Mets' wrapup of the 1969 World Series championship. McGraw warmed up during most of the fifth and final game, but was not needed as Jerry Koozman went the distance for the victory, his second of the Series. (UPI Telephoto)



**BEFORE AND AFTER** — Casey Stengel, first manager of the New York Mets who guided them through some of their lean years, nuzzles Gil Hodges, the present manager who led them to a World Series championship yesterday in New York. (UPI Telephoto)

## Tygers Entertain Marion Harding

All three Mansfield high schools will be out to turn the tables this weekend after last week's misfortunes.

The Marion Harding Presidents will roll into Arlin Field for a Buckeye Conference game against Senior High tonight at 8 o'clock. The Tygers will be holding their annual Parent's night and the parents of Mansfield players will be introduced and escorted to their seats by the team.

Tygers' Coach Jim Lutz reported that three regulars will be out of action and a fourth is questionable. End Rick Mount is in Peoples Hospital with a leg infection while John Buker and Dave Hoy will be sidelined with head injuries. Hard - driving tackle Jim Battisti may join the others in a non - combat situation because of headaches. Tackle Bob White, a questionable performer earlier this week, has been given the go - ahead for the Marion game.

Tonight, Malabar will visit New Philadelphia for a Cardinal Conference contest. The Quakers have gone through the season with one loss only and that at the hands of tenth - ranked Zanesville.

The Madison Rams will get

## The News Journal Sports

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## Ontario High Wins, 14 to 0

The Ontario Warriors boosted into the top spot in the Johnny Appleseed Conference last night, dropping Fredericktown in a 14-0 football contest.

The win put Ontario (5-0 in JAC and 5-1-1 overall) one-half game ahead of undefeated Lexington (4-0 and 6-0) which hosts Loudonville (2-2 and 2-4) tomorrow afternoon. Fredericktown (3-2 and 4-3) dropped from sole possession of third place to a tie with Plymouth.

The Big Red (3-2 and 5-2) shut out Clear Fork (1-4 and 2-5) by an identical 14-0 score in the only other Thursday action.

The other loop activity tomorrow Crestline will play at Crestview.

## Ontario . . . Plymouth . . .

By CHET BRYANT

**BELLEVILLE** — Plymouth began its scoring after Kevin Echelberry recovered a Clear Fork fumble on the Colts 23 yard line. Six plays later halfback Terry Buzard plunged one - yard for his first touchdown and the Big Red had all the margin it needed.

After battling to a scoreless first period, Ontario got its ground game under way. Moving from their own 37 yard line in 11 plays, the Warriors squeezed into the end zone with 23 seconds remaining before intermission. John Magistro carried the ball in.

The clincher for Ontario came in the last period

STATISTICS		STATISTICS	
Out	Fred	C	Ply.
First Downs	16	9	18
Rushing Yardage	318	162	3
Passing Yardage	16	9	15
Passes	2-7	1-7	6-21
Passes Intercepted by	1	2	1
Fumbles lost	0	0	4-30
Yards penalized	6-40	1-15	7

Wayne Motley, conference scoring leader, raced to his right and plowed over for the score. Motley's touchdown capped a 50 - yard, 12 - play drive. Claudio Klippel split the uprights for his second extra point to end the scoring.

Motley, senior tailback, carried 25 times for 162 yards, equal to the combined ground gaining efforts of Fredericktown. Teammate Mike Roberts garnered 84 yards in 17 carries.

Fredericktown could not get its rushing game under way against the Warrior defense which has allowed only 12 points in league action. However, the Freddie's moved down to Ontario's 10 - yard line in the closing seconds of the game before an intercepted pass by Mark Motley stopped the drive.

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## All For A Smudge of Polish 'Break' Starts Mets' Rally

NEW YORK (UPI) — A smudge of shoe polish and a guy named Jones - World Series, good luck omens.

The New York Mets, who beat the Baltimore Orioles, 5 - 3, Thursday to win their first World Series, became the second team in the history of the series to turn that rare combination into a decisive triumph.

Here's how it happened! In the sixth inning with Cleon Jones at bat and the Mets trailing, 3 - 0, a pitch by Baltimore's Dave McNally hit Jones on the foot and bounced into the Mets' dugout. That is, Jones said it hit him.



**DIAMOND DUST** — Somewhere, under the onslaught of several thousands of New York Mets followers, is the baseball diamond where the amazing Mets won the 1969 World Series crown yesterday.

The Mets ran for safety after the final out of the game and the fans literally took over the field, ripping up bases, turf, anything loose or poorly attached to take home for a souvenir. (UPI Telephoto)

## City Series Resumes at Arlin Field

The second of three weekly meetings of Mansfield junior high football teams in the City Series is set for tomorrow at Arlin Field when the defending champions from Johnny Appleseed take on the challenge of John Sherman.

Sherman is coming off a 14 - 8 loss to John Simpson last week in the Series opener. Two games are set for completion with the ninth grade squads battling at 2:15 p.m. following eighth - grade encounters at 1 o'clock.

The Pioneers will be looking for their first victory in their fifth season outing. Sherman's slate now stands at 1 - 4.

## Scott in Semis

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Gene Scott of New York reached the semifinals of the Madrid International Tennis Tournament by defeating G. Gouven, France, 9-7, 6-3 Thursday.