

# Minneapolis Tribune Sports

1C  
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## Griffith says Quilici was stunned by promotion

By Tom Briere  
Staff Writer

Twins president Calvin Griffith said that coach Frank Quilici was "dumbfounded" when he was offered the field manager job of the club Thursday.

"I had manager Bill Rigney in my office when I invited Quilici in to talk this morning," said Griffith, who appeared relieved at the release of his latest frustration, as the Twins dropped 9½ games off the American League West pace. "I asked Quilici if he wanted to manage."

"Frank went into ecstasy about how it was his life-long ambition to manage, about how he had discussed the possibility with his wife Penny, and his philosophy was beautiful."

But Griffith said he didn't think that he and Quilici were on the same wavelength.

"I told Frank that I wasn't talking about just any managerial job in the minor leagues," Griffith said. "I told

Quilici that I was talking about managing the Minnesota Twins in the American League, 1972, starting Friday night against the New York Yankees at Metropolitan Stadium.

"I noticed a difference in Frank's expression. I think he was dumbfounded. I don't think he has said 'yes' yet. The only thing I know is that I shook hands with Quilici on the deal at the press conference this afternoon."

Terms were not announced, although Griffith said that the contract will run through the 1972 season. Quilici will probably get a \$10,000 boost over his coaching salary of \$15,000. "I don't sign my managers for more than one season," said Griffith. "It's a personal policy."

But Griffith has changed a lot of his personal policies. At one time he didn't believe in more than one-year contracts for players, saying that players lose incentive to play for a two-year pact. But he signed Tony Oliva to a two-year contract in 1971.

"At one time I didn't believe in a manager learning to manage in the major leagues," said Griffith. "I thought

the best place to learn to manage was in the minor leagues." Yet Griffith allowed Sam Mele to learn to manage in the major leagues when Mele replaced Cookie Lavagetto in 1961 and Mele eventually won a pennant for the Twins in 1965.

"I wanted Quilici to manage at Wisconsin Rapids in the Midwest League this season," said Griffith. "But he thought he could learn more sitting on the bench as a coach under Rigney. At the time I was not considering Quilici as the Twins next manager."

"Quilici was the right man in the right place at the right time and I've had many conversations with Frank over the seasons, even this year. He's impressed me with his knowledge and maturity. I think he's the leader type. I think the players respect him and I think he has great rapport with the players."

Lack of attendance dictated Griffith's move. And he indicated that the fact Quilici will be a resident manager (there in Burnsville) and will be working the ter-

Griffith continued on page 2C



United Press International  
New Minnesota Twins manager Frank Quilici (left) appeared with Twins president Calvin Griffith Thursday at Metropolitan Stadium after the announcement man-

ager Bill Rigney had been fired. Quilici said his first task would be 'getting togetherness back on the ball club.'

### Players surprised by Rigney dismissal

By Joe Roe  
Staff Writer

Bill Rigney was standing among several suitcases, a couple already filled, when Harmon Killebrew walked into the former manager's office at Metropolitan Stadium.

"Sorry, Bill," Killebrew said, extending his right hand. The pair shook hands, and momentarily neither knew what to say.

"I guess I didn't get enough hats," Rigney said finally.

"Good luck to you," Killebrew said and then left for his locker.

"I'm quite surprised," Killebrew said. "I guess I just haven't had enough time for things to register." Killebrew paused for a moment. "But we sure haven't hit for him lately," he said.

Killebrew was the first to visit Rigney's office Thursday after the 54-year-old manager had been fired by Calvin Griffith and Frank Quilici had been named the new manager. Killebrew's reaction of surprise was echoed by most of his teammates.

"I think it's going to be a tough adjustment to Frank being the manager now," Jim Kaat said. "I've known him a long time as a teammate and a coach. But now he's the manager. I guess we'll have to wait and see."

"I'm surprised that Rigney got fired, but that's the way this game can be. We're not busting the way we were early in the season, or the way we were in spring training."

While all the players expressed surprise at the suddenness of the managerial change, at least one

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Staff Photo by Richard Ottenius  
Ex-Twins manager Bill Rigney, his spikes discarded behind him, said it all with his pose Thursday after he was fired as manager by Twins president Calvin Griffith.

### Ryun captures heat in 1,500

Associated Press

Eugene, Ore.  
Jim Ryun unleashed a 55-second last lap Thursday night to capture a quarter-mile heat of the 1,500-meter run while Dave Wottle remained America's top man in the middle-distance races at the men's U.S. Olympic Track and Field trials.

Ryun, the former Kansas star, kept alive his Olympic hopes by coming from last place with 500 yards left to win his heat in 3:45.1.

Wottle then ran a 2:43.7 heat and both advanced to today's semifinals of the metric mile, along with 18 others.

A crowd of 12,500 at Hayward Field earlier had seen hometown hero Steve Prefontaine and former Oregon State star Tracy Smith move into the finals of the 5,000-meter run. And America's three top long-runners all advanced to the second round on quiet.

Ryun, world record-holder in the mile, half mile and 1,500 meters, moved in the front quickly and stayed in front for 1½ laps. Then he settled into the six-man pack and was soon last with two laps left.

His final sprint brought the crowd to its feet and Ryun, glancing at the electronic timing board, raced into the tape. The time was well off his world mark of 3:33.1.

Prefontaine, 21 and a junior at the University of Oregon, took the lead from Smith with three laps left in the semifinal race. He ran the next-to-last lap in 81 seconds and

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## Wimbledon seeds to collide

New York Times Service

Wimbledon, England

Stan Smith of the United States will meet Romanian Ilie Nastase in the men's tennis finals at Wimbledon, Smith, the 6-foot-4 javelin from Sea Pines, S.C., Thursday trounced Ian Roeder of Czechoslovakia 3-6, 6-4, 6-1, 7-5, while Nastase defeated Manuel Orantes of Spain 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.

It was a triumph of seeding, indeed, with Smith No. 1 and Nastase No. 2, and then Louise Goodagang No. 1 and Billie Jean King No. 2 in the women's final today.

Smith has stumbled from one shaky victory to another at this Wimbledon. Mostly his timing has been poor, particularly off his volé backhand and the low backhand volley coming in net.

For some time yesterday, Smith was again the victim of

his own mistakes. In previous matches, Kodes and Smith were 4-2 and the Czech had his own notions of how to attack. Mostly he would aim low returns off Smith's shortage as the tall American served up for the volley.

In three service games Kodes granted only one point. Smith was always vulnerable.

In the sixth game the Czech swept two backhands away for the break to 4-2. Smith got a back with a backhand down the line that screwed off Kodes's racket. But Smith still couldn't hold service and the set was lost 6-3.

Kodes, for all his avowed dislike of grass, moved fast around court. His anticipation was keener and his appetite for the big point vicious. When he heaped a high backhand into the corner pocket for another break to 4-3 in the second set it seemed a flimsy back to the deuce before when Chris Evert led Miss Goodagang a set and 3-0. But

Wimbledon continued on page 3C.



Stan Smith

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