10C.. Minneapolis Tribune Sun., Oct. 1, 1978

Baseball

M. Howard Gelfand

When Lyman Bostock died last week, baseball missed a tiny beat. Official silences were decreed at several ballparks while somber expressions were screwed into place. Then the usual routine was observed. Fifteen hours after Lyman was pronounced dead in a Gary, Ind., hospital, his former teammates filed into their locker room at Comiskey Park in Chicago after defeating the White Sox. Everyone in the room felt the awkwardness of the moment and the emptiness of the game itself, but no one could depart from the routine.

The game had gone on and the fans had cheered and booed as they always do and when it was over California Manager Jim Fregosi held the usual press briefing in his office. "What was it like in the dugout?" a reporter asked. "Was it pretty quiet?"

"It was very quiet. It was a very tough day for everyone," Fregosi said.

There was a pause. We listened to the showers hiss in the next room and waited, hoping someone else would ask the next question. Finally someone did

"When did you think that Ryan was getting tired on the mound?"

And in this newspaper the next day, the juxtaposition of pictures on the sports page told the same story. There, on the right, was a picture of the mournful Angels bowing their heads in the dugout; on the left was Tom Lasorda doing his lovey-dovey hugging act after his Los Angeles Dodgers clinched the pennant.

It all seemed so grotesque. Those of us who knew Lyman Bostock wanted everything to stop. We wanted some acknowledgement of the meaningless games.

But baseball is a business and it does not work that way. That seems unfair, but then what isn't? How would you entrude some message or meaning from the random slaying of such a beautiful person? No monument will give his death meaning or prevent similar tragedies. The guns and the hate and the desperation will still be there.

But I can't let Lyman go without saying something about him. Lyman was a special exception in a game filled with men whose isolation from the dull desperation of everyday life confers on them a false sense of superiority. His greatness had nothing to do with his ability to hit a baseball. That is a genetic quirk that seems to impede character development more often that it enhances it. His greatness was in the way he cared about people and the way he cared about what they thought of him.

We are so accustomed to burying our dead with superlatives and shining rays of false praise on the shadows that it is difficult to speak convincingly of the few who approach greatness. But Lyman Bostock was one of those few.

Maybe it was because he had such a need to be loved — the only product of a broken marriage who spent his life talking away his loneliness and scheming, innocently for attention. Maybe that was why he seemed so happy to be part of a team and why, when wealth was inevitable, he spent his afternoons alone with his fishing pole, thinking sadly about leaving his friends.

Maybe it was the joy of his friendships that allowed him to maintain his perspective when others could not. (After the road hitter defeats he could get the entire team to sing "Lucille" with him so the Twins flew from one city to another Lyman led one memorable New York-to-Boston songfest after a particularly heartbreaking defeat, and when the plane landed Gene Mauch quickly slipped away and took a cab to the hotel rather than ride on the bus with the team. "I don't want to hear the sounds of joy," Mauch explained.)

People called Lyman abrasive and arrogant and selfish when he played out his option last year, but what he was was hurt. He wasn't talking about how great he was or how much money he deserved; he was saying, "Why won't they talk to me?" He was hurt that the Twins were negotiating with his buddy, Larry Hisle, but not with him. The Twins figured that once Hisle signed, Lyman would, too. He was hurt that the Twins made their first serious offer to him only after he had decided to play for the Angels. It seemed significant to him that while he was in Los Angeles, the offer was being made by an executive who was taking a vacation in Florida.

When his hurt finally spilled over into words he complained that he had been moved to left field and that the fans were front-runners and that Calvin Griffith was cheap. He was saying, in short, a lot of pretty obvious things. But when the words were printed in the newspapers and people began to criticize him — he was "ungrateful," one newspaper critic said — all he cared about was whether the fans would still like him.

He could have said, "Ungrateful for what?" because few men have ever been used the way Lyman Bostock was. If few baseball players now receive the kind of money he was getting when he died, no one of his ability was getting as little as the Twins were paying him. But while the accusations were being flung, all he did was plead with me to explain to the fans that he wasn't upset with them, that they shouldn't boo him, that they were the most important thing about baseball.

That was because he wanted to be loved. And because of that and because of the love he gave in return, he died in that dilapidated hospital in Indiana. Money had taken him so far from the poverty that he had known most of his life. His wealth — which he enjoyed for 10 months of his 27 years — had taken him to a $150,000 house in the Los Angeles hills, above the poverty of his youth. But blood took him back to the country's ugliest city. Lyman could have stayed with his teammates in downtown Chicago, in new hotels where things were sanitized for his protection. "Come on over and meet me for a drink," he could have told his relatives. Instead he barried after each game to Gary so that he could be with his family.

That was his greatness. And the sickening thing is that even if we stop everything now, even if the moments of silence become days, what will we learn? That it was his greatness that killed Lyman Bostock?

There is no moral in that.

Lyman Bostock

Twins statistics

(Through Friday's game)

Batter	Pct.	G	AB	R	H	TB	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SH	SF	HP	SB	CS	E
Bergman																
Carew																
Cubbage																
Goltsman																
Hisle																
Koosman																
Mitterwald																
Norman																
Ortiz																
Rodriguez																
Singer																
Smalley																
Thompson																
Wynegar																
Zahn																
Totals	.000	159	4591	627	1277	1777	230	31	139	592	72	51	37	104	57	9

Pitcher	ERA	W	L	AP	GS	CG	SV	SHO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO	WP	BK
Corbett																	
Goltz																	
Hrbek																	
Johnson																	
Koosman																	
Mahler																	
Redfern																	
Romo																	
Singer																	
Zahn																	
Totals	3.84	85	77	21	162	77	30	11	1417	1337	677	605	139	504	1000	37	19

Baseball averages

AP Complete through Friday's games

American League

TEAM BATTING

	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	CS	SLG	Pct.
Milwaukee											
Baltimore											
Detroit											
Boston											
New York											
Cleveland											
California											
Oakland											
Minnesota											
Chicago											
Seattle											
Texas											
Kansas City											
Toronto											
AMERICAN LEAGUE											

TEAM PITCHING

	ERA	W	L	SV	CG	SHO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
Milwaukee													
Baltimore													
Detroit													
Boston													
New York													
Cleveland													
California													
Oakland													
Minnesota													
Chicago													
Seattle													
Texas													
Kansas City													
Toronto													
AMERICAN LEAGUE													

National League

TEAM BATTING

	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	CS	SLG	Pct.
Cincinnati											
Los Angeles											
Philadelphia											
Pittsburgh											
Atlanta											
San Diego											
San Francisco											
Houston											
Chicago											
New York											
St. Louis											
Montreal											
NATIONAL LEAGUE											

TEAM PITCHING

	ERA	W	L	SV	CG	SHO	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
Cincinnati													
Los Angeles													
Philadelphia													
Pittsburgh													
Atlanta													
San Diego													
San Francisco													
Houston													
Chicago													
New York													
St. Louis													
Montreal													
NATIONAL LEAGUE													

Twins Continued from page 1C

Ford had been unhappy because the Twins had told his agent that they would try to trade him and because he thought the Twins had been overly critical of his recent play.

A short time after Carew was informed of Griffith's remarks, he ran up the tunnel, tossed off his clothes in front of his locker, took a shower and prepared to leave the stadium. But he changed his mind and played. He refused to comment on the remarks.

Wynegar broke a bone above the little finger in his right hand when Amos Otis slid into him during the game. He will have the hand in a cast for four weeks.

"What gives him the right to say this stuff?" Wynegar said before the game. Griffith was quoted as saying that Wynegar was running around the bedroom last spring instead of running around the outfield and training. "Why doesn't he come to us and say this to our face ... Somebody can get on me about my performance but once they say something to me about my family it's got to stop.

"If he doesn't like my style of play and if he thinks my marriage is hurting me, I hate to say it, but why doesn't he get rid of me?"

"What bothers me," said relief pitcher Mike Marshall, who also reportedly was mentioned by Griffith, "is that Gene Mauch is a first-class guy and he's got first-class coaches and is trying to do a first-class job. I'd hate to think that this is representative of the front-office help he's going to get if those remarks are truthful and in context."

"I think the man was a complete idiot to say something like that," said first baseman Craig Kusick, whom Griffith reportedly said he would try to get rid of. "He shouldn't downgrade ballplayers like that no matter what he thinks."

"He's a dumb fool for saying this stuff," Wynegar said. "Maybe he's jealous because I can still run around the bedroom."

Twins notes: Some chips required a cast to be placed around Jerry Terrell's right ankle, making Terrell's chances to play all more positions for today. Terrell said the ankle trying to heal on a couple Friday night. He is expected to wear the cast three weeks.

Rod Carew went 1-for-5, an 11th-inning double which drove in two runs, to pull his average up .333. His closest competitor, Al Oliver of Texas, went 0-for-4 and dropped to .329. Carew went 4-for-8 in Seattle last night. Oliver's average had dropped four points when he went 0-for-4 Friday night.

Twins Vice President Howard Fox slipped on the press box stairs and fractured his right ankle. He will undergo surgery at the Twin Cities today for surgery.

Bussman, Gilham score two TDs each in Holy Angels win

George Bussman and Don Gilham each tallied a pair of first-half touchdowns to lead Holy Angels to a 27-0 win at De La Salle in Don Bosco Conference play Saturday.

Bussman gained 124 yards in only five carries on Holy Angels raised its record to 2-1 in conference play. De La Salle is 0-3.

Don Bosco

Holy Angels 27, De La Salle 0

Holy Angels					
De La Salle					

Gopher runners beat Iowa

Gerald Metzler and Steve Plascencia tied for first place to lead the University of Minnesota cross-country team to a 18-45 dual meet win over Iowa. Both runners finished the 2,540-meter course in 25:09.4, a new course record.

Indoor Tennis Championships a test of local tourney market

When promoter Jack Jones decided to hold the U.S. Women's Indoor Tennis Championships here next week, he was banking on hopes that the success of indoor tennis in the area will translate into success at the gate.

But, more importantly, he was hoping that the failure of tennis tournaments here won't translate into failure at the gate.

Jones was aware that tennis tournaments and exhibitions haven't had much luck in the Twin Cities, but he doesn't think it's fair to compare what has taken place in the past with the six-day tournament which starts Monday. Oct. 8 at the Met Center in Bloomington.

Jones, a Los Angeles man who has produced several major tournaments, sees the indoor championships as the first legitimate test of the Twin Cities as a tournament market.

"You've never really had championship tennis," he said. "You're a big league town and you've had Mickey Mouse exhibitions and World Team Tennis — which hasn't made it anywhere. Now you're being exposed to big time tennis and I think the area will support it."

The only previous big-name tennis tournament in the Twin Cities was the Virginia Slims last year. But that tournament was handicapped by several liabilities that won't encumber next week's affair.

The biggest problem was the absence of the biggest names of women's tennis. Chris Evert — who will be appearing in the indoor tournament — didn't play in the Virginia Slims, nor did Evonne Goolagong, who will also be here.

Partly because of the promised appearance of Evert and Goolagong — and Martina Navratilova, Tracy Austin and most of the other major stars of the women's tour — the indoor championships have apparently already had more success than the Slims.

Connie Barry, the tournament director, said 27,000 tickets have already been sold. While that is still well below the break-even point, it is overwhelming 12,000 more than were sold for the Slims.

Tournament officials are hoping the advance sale will be matched by healthier sales at the gate. They point out that the television showing of "Roots" undoubtedly held down attendance at the Slims, as did temperatures well below zero. (What they don't point out quite so eagerly is that their tournament will be competing with another formidable television show: the World Series.)

Unlike the Slims tournaments, this even has a name that carries an aura of respectibility and tradition. Not just anyone can name a tournament the U.S. Women's Indoor Tennis Championship. The United States Tennis Association owns the title and loans it only to promoters deemed worthy of the name. But there may not be quite as much to the title as meets the eye. The tournament began more than 70 years ago in Boston, but since then it has been moved to New York and, finally, to Atlanta. After failing in Atlanta, the tournament wasn't held at all last year. (Jones says he hopes to make the Twin Cities the permanent home.)

And it is difficult to imagine a tournament like Wimbledon with the sorts of commercial tie-ins used to hype this sort of affair. An automotive agency has bought out Monday's tickets, the women's orchestra auxiliary, YAMSO, is selling tickets to and sharing proceeds from Tuesday's matches, and a tennis racket manufacturer is sponsoring free parking on Wednesday. Nor is it easy to imagine Pepsi-Cola being the "official drink" of Wimbledon, as it will be for this tournament.

Tournament director Connie Barry said the four players, chosen by the tournament committee, are Meg Horun and Marnie Wheaton of the University of Minnesota, Ann Brickreen of Mahtomedi now attending UCLA and Sue Norsworthy of Brooklyn Park.

The play-offs will be held at the 10th Street Racquet Club in Bloomington beginning Oct. 3.

The wild card winner then will join the field for the qualifying tournament which will be held at the same club Oct. 6-8, and the four finishers will enter the main draw of the Indoor Championships, which will be held at Met Sports Center Oct. 9-14.

Twins scorecard

SECOND INNING
Twins—Roy Smalley walked. Dan Ford singled, Smalley taking second. Smalley took third and Ford was forced out when Glenn Adams hit into a fielder's choice. Smalley scored on pitcher Dave Roberts' wild pitch.
Royals—Darrell Porter singled. Hal Mcrae struck out. Al Cowens flied out. Porter scored on Frank White's single.
Twins 1, Royals 1

FOURTH INNING
Royals—Amos Otis doubled. Otis took third on Porter's ground out. Otis scored when Lu Clark reached first on a fielder's choice.
Royals 2, Twins 1

FIFTH INNING
Twins—Dave Edwards was hit by a pitch. Rob Wilfong reached first on Jim Rice's error. Wilfong advanced to second on Edwards' single to left center field.
Twins 2, Royals 1

SIXTH INNING
Royals—George Brett tripled and scored on Otis' sacrifice fly to center.
Twins 2, Royals 2

ELEVENTH INNING
Twins—Dan Ford walked. Glenn Adams reached first on catcher's interference. Ford taking second. Glenn Borgmann bunted for a hit and Ford scored. Adams went to third and Borgmann took second when pitcher Randy Lerch threw wild to first baseman Pete Redfern on error. Willie Norwood ran for Adams. Norwood scored and Borgmann reached third on Bobby Mitterwald's single. Wilfong and Powell popped out. Cubbage walked to load the bases. Rod Carew's double scored Borgmann and Rivers.
Twins 5, Royals 2

MINNESOTA	AB	R	H	RBI
Rivers, cf				
Wilfong, ss				
Carew, 1b				
Rice, dh				
Adams, rf				
Borgmann, lf				
Powell, 2b				
Cubbage, 3b				
Mitterwald, c				
Totals				

KANSAS CITY	AB	R	H	RBI
Brett, 3b				
Wathan, c				
Otis, lf				
Cowens, dh				
White, 2b				
Leonard, rf				
Porter, 1b				
Mcrae, cf				
Patek, ss				
Totals				

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Minnesota						
Kansas City						

Lerch (W, 1-0)
Roberts (L, 0-1)
Umpires—Home, Ron Luciano; first base, Bill Haller; second base, Bill Kunkel; third base, Bruce Froemming.
T—2:59. A—20,000.

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