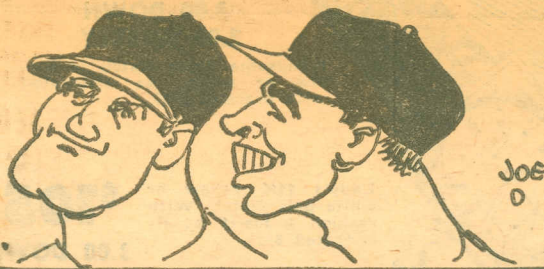


What Would They Charge for League X?

There's a strato-matic football game being advertised in the papers. NFL set is \$11; AFL set \$7.50, which should answer all questions of parity for the moment. . . Jackie Kemp was physically able to play the last three games at QB for Buffalo, but he had been put on the list called "reserved as injured" when he broke leg at the start—and the only way you can come back from that list in same season is to pass through irrevocable waivers. Too risky. Any AFL club could have claimed him for \$500.

One look at Met' new promotional film and you can understand why the club won't trade Jerry Koonsman. They'd have to toss in the movie, which is 90% about Kooz and Tom Seaver. Free print for showing to your group can be arranged by writing: Mets Film Dept., Shea Stadium, Flushing, N.Y. 11368. Specify preferred date and alternate . . . Remember the date night Roosevelt Raceway held during the summer, with IBM matchups? Two computerized marriages have resulted. There's a couple of real losers.

Joe DiMaggio says he hasn't yet decided if he'll put in another season as Oakland coach. Hank Bauer, new A's mgr., has told Joe: "Come sit next to me in the dugout." . . . I'm waiting for the day Kyle Rote or any other ex-footballer will tell his TV audience, that



was a lousy play, instead of making excruciating excuses everytime a man muffs one . . . Letting Bill Nelsen go to Cleveland for virtually nothing was straw that broke Bill Austin's back at Pittsburgh . . . U.S. Olympic boxing team visits Russia in March to meet their Olympians, and the Russians seek return trip here in April.

Ballplayers Shouldn't Throw Stones

I am amused by the pained righteousness of the modern ballplayer, who makes it sound as if the owners are taking the bread out of his kids' mouths. What about the men who played ball between 1952 and 1957? They are being shut out of all the increased benefits by the noble present-day players. Allie Reynolds is bringing them to trial on this issue. Case is due in N.Y. Federal Court in a couple of months. And guess who represents Allie, Kiner and the rest? J. Norman Lewis, the original Marvin Miller.

Joe Lapchick recently underwent surgery for a hernia. After the operation, the surgeon asked the famed basketball man: "Can you remember having been hit there years ago?"

"Every tap, Doc," said Joe Lapchick, "every tap."