



Bob Gibson's great pitching performance in the recent World Series as the St. Louis Cardinals downed the favored New York Yankees, 4-3, is now a matter of history. But we thought it would be appropriate to re-run a column written by Neal Russo for The Sporting News in mid-September. It follows:

WHEN BOB GIBSON was struggling through his July doldrums, the Cardinal pitching staff was at its lowest ebb. Bombed for six earned runs in each of four straight games, Hoot completed the disappointing picture of the pre-season righthanded Big Three. Ernie Broglio, off to a so-so start, had been traded and Ray Washburn went on the disabled list.

However, Manager Johnny Keane, whose bullpen also had fallen far short in the first half of the season, refused to put Gibson on relief duty. He said that if the Redbirds were to make a real swipe at the pennant, his hard-throwing righthander would have to be a key part of the drive.

While southpaws Ray Sadecki and Curt Simmons held the fort, the Cardinals still were 11 games back on August 23. Then they closed within five games of the Phillies with a 13-3 spree.

Through September 15, they had a 17-5 stretch with six of the triumphs coming on route-going efforts by Gibson. From July 25 through September 15, they won 35 of 50 games.

"He was always the key to our staff," said pitching coach Howard Pollet after Hoot starved the Braves on four hits, 3-1, September 15, to boost his record to 16-10.

POLLET CONTINUED, "I said in the spring that Gibson was capable of winning 20 to 25 games. He got off to a good start (4-0), but then ran into that stretch of tough, low-score defeats, then some tenderness in his arm. Not enough tenderness to keep him from pitching, but enough to keep him from throwing 100 per cent"

Gibson, who began the hot streak on August 24 with a 5-1 triumph over the Pirates, allowed only six earned runs in the six-game skein. In that period, he yielded 33 hits, walked 15 and fanned 50.

Boasting a 4-0 mark in the first month and a 5-1 record going into June, Gibson began losing those toughies, including several on homers by such improbable four-bagger hitters as Chuck Hiller, Mel Queen and Cookie Rojas. When Hoot was really bad, he had a string of seven incomplete games.

HOOT SHOULD HAVE HAD at least one more victory. He held a big lead over the Phillies when he flung his bat after being hit by a pitch. He was ejected before pitching the minimum of five innings.

"I've felt lots stronger lately," Gibson said after blanking the Cubs, 4-0, on two hits, September 11.

Keane, happy to see Gibson concentrate on his bread-and-butter pitch, a very live fast ball, said, "He was knocking the bats out of the Cubs' hands. Nobody likes to hit against his fast ball, especially on a cold day. He had been getting hurt by 0-and-2 pitches earlier in the season. With his stuff, he doesn't have to challenge the batters with off-speed stuff."

Said the Cubs' Dick Bertell, echoing sentiments of many other batters, "I don't see how Gibson can miss winning 20 with his stuff."

## Save During AIR-KOOL'S GIGANTIC FACTORY Clearance

ALL ALUMINUM PATIOS and AWNINGS

When You Deal with AIR-KOOL®—The Leader in the Field—YOU DEAL "FACTORY DIRECT"—AIR-KOOL® Minimizes the Middleman and Passes the Savings on to You... AIR-KOOL®—The Largest in the West!

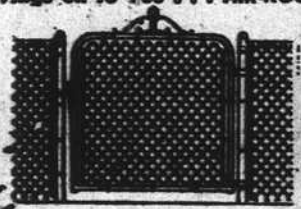


Wider Prices Now in Effect! Buy your AIR-KOOL

Aluminum Patio and Awnings Now!

Get 20%, 30% or 50% OFF But Here For Your Money

100% FINANCING



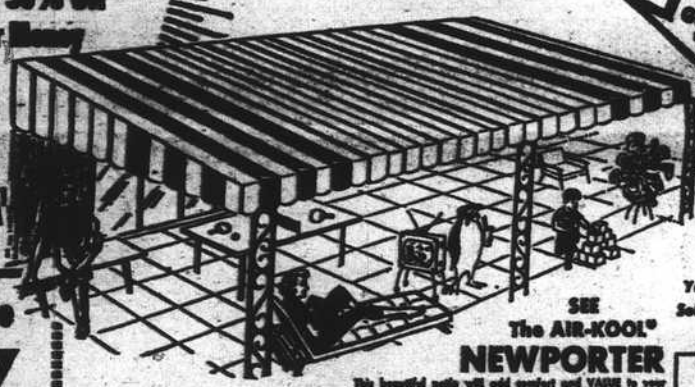
Complete Home Improvement Service • FENCES • ALUMINUM SIDING • ROOM ADDITIONS

AND BEST OF ALL—NO PAYMENT for SIX MONTHS!

ALL AIR-KOOL® ALUMINUM AWNINGS and PATIOS Carry a 5-YEAR WARRANTY GUARANTEE

FREE ESTIMATES

24 Hour Phone Service 384-0677

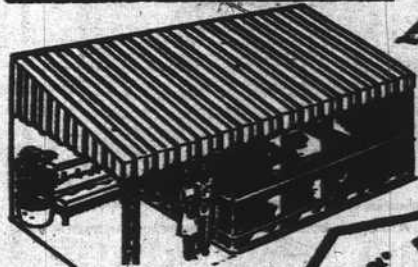


SEE The AIR-KOOL® NEWPORTER

CALL TODAY FOR IMMEDIATE INSTALLATION

Your Choice of Colors Solid, Plink or Beautiful Floral Patterns

FREE HOME LAYOUT AND MEASURING SERVICE



Licensed - Bonded - Insured

ALL CONCRETE WORK AT COST! INSTALLED BY FACTORY-TRAINED MECHANICS! ALL SHAPES AND SIZES! 24-HOUR SERVICE!

The AIR-KOOL® DEAL PURPOSE For the family that wants both BUG-FREE COMFORT and outdoor California Living.

AIR-KOOL'S ALUMINUM PATIOS and AWNINGS are—BEST-PROOF IMPROVED STEEL UNDESTRUCTIBLES

AIR-KOOL® ALUMINUM AWNINGS

and DOOR CANOPIES NOW AT FACTORY CLEARANCE PRICES—CUSTOM-BUILT TO YOUR HOME—

THIS IS AIR-KOOL'S FAMOUS BUG-FREE PATIO! With Inade Comfort Outdoor!



SEE THE BUG-FREE PATIO PUT FUN INTO OUTDOOR ENTERTAINING!

RAIN OR SHINE...PROTECTION FOR A "HOUSETIME"



FREE HOME MEASURING AND LAYOUT SERVICE ALL CONCRETE WORK AT COST ACT NOW AND CALL 384-0677

1221 SOUTH MAIN ST. SHOWROOMS OPEN DAILY 9 A.M. to 6 P.M.—SATURDAY 9 A.M.—3 P.M.—

VOTE for CLARK for Clark County

Assembly District 2