

# Gale Sayers on SPORTS

## Football and Television

There have been a lot of changes in professional football since I left the game in 1970. Because many of the changes have been brought on by television, I'm sometimes asked if I think television is hurting the NFL. I don't think it's *hurting* the game, but I do think that the media's coverage of football *paints an unrealistic picture* of professional sports.

Personally, I enjoy watching football games on television. You see things that you wouldn't be able to if you were at the game. Besides, I've had six knee operations, and usually when the weather starts getting cold, I stop going to the games because of the arthritis in my knees.

Television has provided the game with a few valuable innovations. I like the fact that they're using instant replay as part of the officiating of the games now. I think it is an effort by the league to make the games better. Some coaches don't like it; but I guarantee that if a replay saves them a game, they'll start liking it!

Television also has made it possible for players these days to make the kind of money they're making and for more people than ever before to enjoy games. And it has made every football player a "star."

Now every player wants to have his face on television. That's what spiking the football in the end zone and the sack dances are all about. To me, that stuff is ridiculous. Just because you've crossed that last stripe you should be allowed to *dance or spike the ball*? Sometimes you'll see a running back get in the end zone and give the ball to a lineman and let him spike it. Nowadays, that's considered teamwork!

But in becoming as important as it is to football, television has *failed* to keep the game in the proper perspective. One thing I would like to see change is its portrayal of football as a pot of gold.

You see former stars like Dick Butkus, Bart Starr and me on television, but you very rarely see a program of *failures*. You don't see the guy that played for two or three years or maybe even *five* years and ended up broke or in prison. I think many players end up bums because they got a little money and they blew it.


These are the things that should be shown, not just the successes. Too many kids think that it's all about success.

All I'm asking is that they show the public the total package. If they keep feeding that *good, good, good* all the time, kids get the impression that they have a whole life ahead of them as professional football players. And it's not going to happen. **ll**

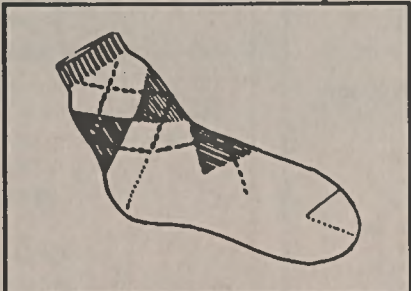
Gale Sayers is considered one of the greatest running backs of all time. The former Chicago Bear is a member of the National Football League's Hall of Fame.

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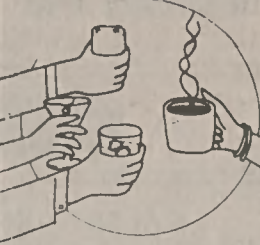


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**CROWDER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY** is soliciting MBE/WBE to furnish quotes for the Mecklenburg County Project 8.1634808. Bid on January 17, 1988. There will be a meeting at our office on 1123 East Tenth Street on Tuesday, January 10 at 4PM. Questions concerning this project should be directed to:

**MR JOHN DROLET**  
@ 332-8184.

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**

The City of Charlotte will receive sealed Bids for YORK ROAD RENAISSANCE PARK/SOCCER FIELD COMPLEX, PROJECT NUMBER 512-88-162, until 3:30 on January 31, 1988, in the Engineering Department conference room, 14th floor, 600 E. Fourth Street, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202, when all Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Separate Bids will be received for (1) General Construction Work; (2) Plumbing Work; (3) Electrical Work; and (4) Mechanical Work.

Proposals must be on standard forms furnished by the Architect and must be submitted in a sealed envelope identifying the Bidder and the proposal. Proposal forms, plans and specifications may be obtained at the office of:

Woolpert Consultants  
8731 Red Oak Boulevard  
Suite 101  
Charlotte, NC 28217

A deposit of \$25.00 will be required for the plans and specifications which will be refunded upon the return of plans and specifications in good condition within 10 days after the bid date. Subcontractors, and material suppliers who wish to submit bids to Prime Bidders may obtain prints of the drawings sheets for \$1.50 per sheet, and specification pages for \$.25 per page. These charges are non-refundable.

Plans and specifications will be on file at the offices of (1) The Architect; (2) City Engineering Dept.; (3) The local A.G.C.; and (4) the Dodge Plan Room.

A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the contract sum shall be submitted with each bid. The bid security shall be in the form of cash, a cashier's check or a certified check on a bank or trust company insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation made payable to the order of the City of Charlotte. In lieu of making a cash deposit, the bidder may submit a bid bond executed by a corporate surety licensed in North Carolina to execute such bonds.

The Bidder is advised that he must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or handicap.

All Bidders are hereby notified that they must have proper licenses under the State laws governing their respective trades at the time of submittal of bids. Bidders are also advised that this contract contains provisions requiring the Contractor to document that sufficient good faith efforts have been made to provide equal opportunity for Minority and Women Business Enterprises to participate in the subcontracting and material supplier opportunities available under this contract.

Bids may be held by the City of Charlotte for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days from the date of the opening of Bids for the purpose of reviewing the Bids and investigating the qualifications of Bidders, prior to awarding of the Contract. The City of Charlotte reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive any informalities in the bidding.

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