

GAME 7

Sandy, Lou and Jim Crush Twins' Last, Desperate Bid

TWIN CITIES, Minn. That handy guy named Sandy was there when the Dodgers needed him and Los Angeles reigns as baseball champion of the world.

This was Sandy Koufax not at his best, if you can believe that a man who pitched a three-hitter was anything less than superb. But he had what he needed when he needed it. He led the Dodgers to a 2-0 victory over the American League champions in the seventh game of the World Series, October 14.

This was by far the best game of an often pallid Series. This one went down to the wire. The money was still on the table when Koufax, reaching back for one last bit of energy, fanned the dangerous Earl

Batthey and Bob Allison, both representing the tying run, to end it.

As a result, the National League owns the world championship for the third straight year. Koufax didn't win this one by himself. A couple of old gaffers named Jim Gilliam and Lou Johnson, neither of them on the Dodgers' active roster at the start of the season, made the difference.

A dazzling play by Gilliam, when the Twins mounted their most serious threat in the fifth inning, was "the difference," according to happy Manager Walter Alston.

With runners on first and second and one out, Gilliam dove to his right for a backhanded grab of Zoilo Versalles' hard smash which was headed for the left field corner. Calmly, as only an old pro can do it, Gilliam beat the runner to third for a forceout and the steam went out of the Twins' best shot.

Kaat Meets Waterloo Johnson supplied the key shot after Jim Kaat, pitching with two days' rest as was Koufax, had stayed even for three innings. The Dodgers struck quickly in the fourth. Leading off, Johnson whipped a drive to left field which struck the foul pole and screen for an inches-fair home run, his second of the Series.

Ron Fairly, the most consistent Dodger hitter in the Series, then rifled a double into the right field corner, where Tony Oliva had trouble fielding the ball.

Wes Parker bounced a high chopper over Don Mincher's head, bringing home the second and final run.

That was all the scoring. Meanwhile, the big thrills were produced by Gilliam, who was 37 years old on October 17, and by Johnson, the 32-year-old nomad of baseball.

The rest of the story, though, belonged to Koufax. He was not as sharp as usual. You could see that when he walked Oliva and Harmon Killebrew on the first two of the three walks he issued.

He was laboring, often coming in high with pitches. He was also a bit more truculent than usual, frequently questioning plate umpire Ed Hurley's calls.

Alston Selects Sandy Manager Alston had debated whether to start Koufax or Don Drysdale, finally settling on Sandy, with the big righthander in the bullpen for emergencies.

Only once did Alston worry and that was in the fifth when the Twins made that one big bid, blunted by Gilliam's masterpiece.

With one out, Frank Quilici doubled solidly to left-center, the best hit off Koufax in two games. Rich Rollins walked while batting for Kaat and then Gilliam made his play on Versalles. Alston came out for a chat with his pitcher.

"I told him not to reach back too much," said Alston. "If he needed help, we had it ready."

Joe Nossek then was retired and the big threat died.

"I felt pretty tired right at that point," Koufax said. "It wasn't my arm, but my legs. They felt heavy and it seemed like I'd been throwing a lot of pitches."

Including the forceouts on Ver-

Sandy's Scythe

Los Angeles AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Wills, ss	4	0	0	2	1
Gilliam, 3b	5	0	2	2	1
Kennedy, 3b	0	0	0	0	0
Davis, cf	2	0	0	1	0
Johnson, lf	4	1	1	3	0
Fairly, rf	4	1	1	0	0
Parker, 1b	4	0	2	0	0
Tracewski, 2b	4	0	0	1	0
Roseboro, c	2	0	1	12	0
Koufax, p	3	0	0	0	1
Totals	32	2	7	27	3

Minnesota AB.	R.	H.	PO.	A.	E.
Versalles, ss	4	0	1	0	2
Nossek, cf	4	0	0	0	0
Oliva, rf	3	0	0	4	0
Killebrew, 3b	3	0	1	2	0
Batthey, c	4	0	0	8	1
Allison, lf	4	0	0	1	0
Mincher, 1b	3	0	0	10	0
Quilici, 2b	3	0	1	1	0
Kaat, p	1	0	0	0	1
Worthington, p	0	0	0	1	0
aRollins	0	0	0	0	0
Klippstein, p	0	0	0	0	0
Merritt, p	0	0	0	0	0
bValdespine	1	0	0	0	0
Perry, p	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	30	0	3	27	10

*Pitched to three batters in fourth. Bases on balls — Off Koufax 3 (Oliva, Killebrew, Rollins), off Kaat 1 (Koufax), off Worthington 1 (Roseboro), off Klippstein 1 (Roseboro), off Perry 1 (Wills). Struck out — By Koufax 10 (Versalles, Batthey 2, Allison 2, Mincher, Kaat, Oliva 2, Quilici), by Kaat 2 (Wills, Tracewski), by Klippstein 2 (Tracewski, Koufax), by Merritt 1 (Roseboro), by Perry 1 (Koufax). Hit by pitcher — By Klippstein (Davis).

aWalked for Worthington in fifth. bFiled out for Merritt in eighth. Runs batted in — Johnson, Parker. Two-base hits — Roseboro, Fairly, Quilici. Three-base hit — Parker. Home run — Johnson. Sacrifice hit — Davis. Left on base — Los Angeles 9, Minnesota 6. Umpires — Hurley (AL), plate, Venzon (NL) first base, Flaherty (AL) second base, Sudol (NL) third base, Stewart (AL) left field, Vargo (NL) right field. Time 2:27. Attendance—50,596.

salles and Nossek in the fifth, Koufax had retired 12 straight men before Killebrew revived the hopes of 50,596 yelling fans with the third hit off Koufax, a single to left with one out in the ninth.

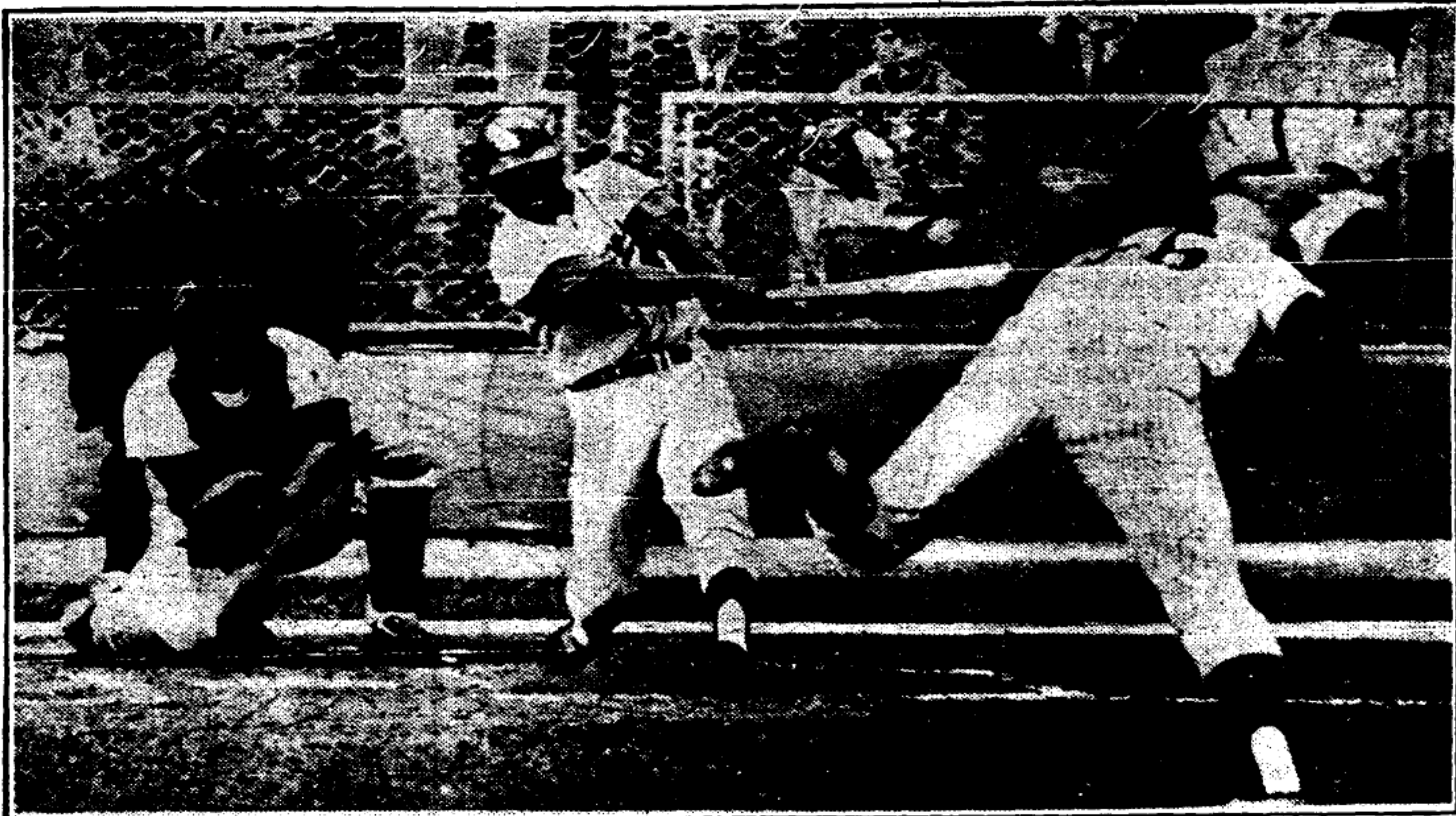
Batthey and Allison, both home-run threats, still had to be disposed of. Koufax poured three straight strikes past Batthey. Then Sandy ripped two more strikes past the hard-swinging Allison, wasted a ball, and finally got him on another fast ball to end the Series. These brought Koufax' strikeout total to ten, the eighty-fifth time in his career he has matched or topped this figure.

"They were lucky," snarled Versalles, the best of the Twins, overall. "Today, they get every break."

That, however, was not the general tempo. Manager Sam Mele summed it up.

"We were beaten by a great pitcher," Mele said quietly, "and he had to be great to beat us. He's the best I've seen. I thought we played well."

This was only the fourth time in history that a team came on to win after losing the first two games of the Series. The Dodgers did it against the Yankees in 1955, the Yankees responded against the Dodgers in 1956 and once more against the Braves in 1958.



THE BLOW that made the Dodgers world champions came in the fourth inning when Lou Johnson connected off Jim Kaat. Earl Batthey is the catcher, Ed Hurley the umpire.

Sandy Wins Sports Car

TWIN CITIES, Minn.—Sandy Koufax, who hurled the Dodgers to their clinching victory over the Twins, was named the winner of the Corvette sports car awarded annually by Sports Magazine to the outstanding player of the World Series.

THE GRAND FINALE

ALSTON'S PITCHING PLANS

ALTHOUGH Manager Walt Alston had said he would not pick his starting pitcher until just before game-time, he announced the selection of Sandy Koufax at the Dodgers' clubhouse meeting. Choosing between Koufax and Don Drysdale was "one of the toughest decisions I ever had to make," the L. A. skipper said. Explaining his choice, he said, "I figure the Twins are more susceptible to lefthanded pitching." Alston went on to say that Drysdale would be in the bullpen, ready to relieve. Then, he reasoned, if the Twins substituted lefthanded batters to face Drysdale, he could counter with his southpaw relief ace, Ron Perranoski, in the late innings.

It appeared earlier that the finale might have to be postponed because of the weather. A severe electrical storm, accompanied by heavy rains, hit the Twin Cities just at dawn. However, the skies cleared an hour later.

The Twins figured they had the Dodgers where they wanted them. "I was sure we would get back on the beam when we got back to our own park and we did," said Manager Sam Mele. "Now (Jim) Kaat will wrap it up for us," the Twins' pilot added confidently.

DODGERS HOLD MEETING

MOMENTS after arriving at the ball park, Walt Alston held a three-minute meeting with the Dodgers in their clubhouse. He got right to the point. "This might be the last time we get together, so stay in good shape. . . . Regardless of how this thing comes out today, I'm proud of the whole ball club and I want you fellows to know it." After Alston announced his pitching plans, Ron Fairly broke the silence by piping up: "Okay, fellows, no use saving anything for tomorrow. This is it. There ain't no tomorrow."

The Twins' starter, Jim Kaat, declared he was "anxious to go." Kaat wasn't concerned about working with only two days' rest or the identity of his mound opponent. "I've pitched quite a few times with two days' rest," he said.

Although the Twins had won three straight in Metropolitan Stadium and the Dodgers had swept three games in Los Angeles, Alston insisted he didn't go for "this home-park advantage business." He said the park has nothing to do with the outcome of the game. "We just haven't played well here, but we'll snap out of it

today," he promised. "Don't forget the Twins have a mighty fine team and they are tough to beat anytime, anywhere."

DRYSDALE HURTS HAND

DON DRYSDALE hurt his right hand while batting in the fourth game at Los Angeles, Manager Walt Alston disclosed. "He said it was numb from the eighth inning on and that it hurt him the next day," Alston added, "but he said it's all right now." The injury occurred when a bat broke in Drysdale's hands.

Jim Grant, who owned two Series victories over the Dodgers, would not be sitting back taking it easy during the deciding game, he indicated. "If (Sam) Mele needs me, I'll be ready," Grant said. "He might need me just to pitch to one man and I'll be all set."

Manager Sam Mele mustered all of his righthanded-hitting power to go against Sandy Koufax, placing Joe Nossek and Bob Allison in the Twins' outfield and moving catcher Earl Batthey up to hit fifth. The Dodgers went with their usual lineup except at second base, where Dick Tracewski again filled in for the injured Jim Lefebvre.

DIVING CATCH BY OLIVA

TONY OLIVA'S diving catch of Lou Johnson's pop fly to short right kept the Dodgers from scoring in the first inning. The hard-charging right fielder made a shoe-string grab and held the ball as he rolled over several times. Meanwhile, Jim Gilliam, who singled and reached second on a bunt by Willie Davis, was streaking toward home in the two-out situation.

After two outs in the Twins' first, Sandy Koufax walked Tony Oliva and Harmon Killebrew and Don Drysdale started limbering up in the Dodgers' bullpen. Koufax, however, struck out Earl Batthey to end the threat.

Although saddled with a two-strike count, Maury Wills accomplished his purpose, advancing Johnny Roseboro and Sandy Koufax to third and second bases in the Dodgers' third. Wills bunted foul down the third base line, fouled off two more pitches swinging, then moved the runners with a slow bouncer to second baseman Frank Quilici, whose only play was to first.

KAAT JOHNNY-ON-SPOT

JIM KAAT showed the value of executing the fundamentals in the third inning. After Jim Gilliam flied out with runners on second and third, Tony Oliva's peg bounced through catcher Earl Batthey. The Twins' pitcher, however, nabbed the ball in his back-up position behind the plate, preventing John Roseboro from scoring. Coach Preston Gomez, out of respect for Oliva's arm, had held Roseboro at third.

An interference call against Joe Nossek cost the Twins a double penalty in the third and resulted in Sandy Koufax chalking up his sixth strikeout of the game. Zoilo Versalles, who singled with one out, broke for second

Alston First N. L. Pilot To Win Four World Titles

TWIN CITIES, Minn.—When his Dodgers won the World Series, Walter Alston became the first National League manager to be at the helm of four world championship teams.

His other titles came in 1955-59-63. The only time an Alston team failed in the Series was 1956, when the Yankees won, four games to three. Even John McGraw, who took his Giants into nine World Series, could cop only three crowns.

The American League boasts three pilots with more Series championships — Joe McCarthy and Casey Stengel of the Yankees with seven each and Connie Mack of the Athletics with five.

The N. L. has now prevailed in 25 classics while the A. L. has taken 37.

as Nossek swung. Versalles had it made, but it was ruled that Nossek interfered with catcher John Roseboro's throw and the Twins' shortstop was ordered to return to first and Nossek was declared out for the infraction. Two pitches later, coach Billy Martin protested that Koufax balked in making a pickoff move to first on Versalles.

GILLIAM MAKES KEY PLAY

SANDY KOUFAX wiggled out of a fifth-inning jam with the aid of a backhanded stab by Jim Gilliam on Zoilo Versalles' smash. Frank Quilici had doubled with one out and pinch-hitter Rich Rollins walked. Gilliam then speared Versalles' bid for a two-base hit and stepped on third, forcing Quilici. Joe Nossek bounced into a force play at second to end the inning.

After Wes Parker tripled with one out in the sixth, the Dodgers failed in an attempt to squeeze across their third run. Dick Tracewski bunted foul on a 3-and-2 count. Reliever Johnny Klippstein walked Johnny Roseboro intentionally, then whiffed Sandy Koufax.

There was great similarity between the '65 and '55 classics. Ten years ago the Dodgers lost their first two games to the Yankees at Yankee Stadium, then swept all three at Ebbets Field, lost the sixth back in New York, then won the seventh—also 2-0—behind Johnny Podres.

L. A. MATCHES A. L.'S HURLERS

THE three shutouts suffered by the Twins in the Series matched the total shutouts achieved against them in the entire regular season. The A. L. pitchers to blank the Twins were the Red Sox' Dave Morehead, with ninth-inning help from Dick Radatz; Fred Newman of the Angels, and Joel Horlen of the White Sox.