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Twins' Heroes in Opening Victory

Outfielder Bob Allison (left); pitcher Pedro Ramos; third baseman Reno Bertoia

ONE LOSS, BUT 161 GAMES REMAIN

Boyer's Future Is Houk's Concern

Special to the Minneapolis Tribune

NEW YORK — It's only natural, when you're the guy who took Casey Stengel's place, and you lose the opener, that they're going to pick a spot in the ball game to say "Stengel wouldn't have done it that way."

The spot was the eighth inning, and the New York Yankees had fallen behind the Minnesota Twins 5-0. They needed runs quick. Cletus Boyer, No. 8 in the Yankee batting order, led off, and fanned.

"Why did you let Boyer bat?" a reporter asked manager Ralph Houk. Many managers would snap at such a palpable second guess. They would anger, or become snippy, or brush it off. Not Houk, rookie manager who is on the toughest spot in baseball.

"I want to give Boyer the opportunity to be a hitter," said Houk. "He was as good a hitter this spring as anybody on the club. He got good wood on the ball the first time up today.

"If he finds himself, he'll be a big help to this club. With the power he has, he may not be an eighth-place hitter too long."

In the player's room, Boyer was sore at himself, as though he had betrayed some sort of trust.

"It makes me mad," he said. "I strike out only four times all spring, and here, on opening day, I do it twice." Boyer shook his head. "Boy he had good stuff." "And good control. He didn't walk a man, did he?"

Twins pitcher Pedro Ramos had walked one. He had given three singles. He struck out Boyer twice and Mickey Mantle twice.

Ed Lopat, former Yankee pitching coach who now tutors the Twins, has declared he would show the Minnesota pitchers how to work on the Yankee hitters. Had Boyer noticed any difference?

"He pitched Mickey the same way," said Boyer. "High and tight. He pitched extra hard to Mickey all the time. He was a little different with me. Usually, I get breaking balls from him. This time, his fast stuff—and it was good."

Back in the manager's office, Houk was still answering questions patiently. "Sure, you like to win that first one a little extra. It always seems to be a big one. But we got 161 to go. If we can get a good winning streak working in there somewhere, we'll be all right. I'm not worried."

(P.S.: Yankee batting practice called for 11 a.m. today—a day off.)

Allison: 'Always Hit Well Against Yanks'

By Staff Writer

NEW YORK—Bob Allison of the Twins has always hit well against New York, particularly in Yankee stadium. But he doesn't know why.

Allison, 26-year-old right-handed hitter with the looks of a movie actor, played a television guest shot on "Play Your Hunch" Tuesday morning in New York.

A few hours later he played another hunch to break Whitey Ford's shutout with a seventh-inning homer.

His blow started the Twins on a 6-0 victory.

"I've always hit pretty well against the Yankees" said Allison. Bob hit .311 against the Yanks a year ago when the Twins were working out of Washington.

Allison had an idea he was going to get a curve from Ford.

"I hit a 1-0 curve. Maybe I didn't get all of it, but I got a pretty good piece of it," smiled Bob.

Reno Bertoia, the Twins' other home-run hitter, smashed a Ralph Terry fast ball on the first pitch served to him in the eighth inning. "I waited all spring for that," Reno said. "I knew it was out. I hit it hard."

Harmon Killebrew of the Twins hollered, "Only 161 to go." "To the pennant," added a Minnesota club spokesman.

Things to Like as Twins Crack Down on Yanks

CULLUM'S COLUMN by DICK CULLUM

HOW DID YOU LIKE—

●Pedro Ramos' pitching against the Yankees great power?

●The way Bob Allison played the windy and always difficult right field in Yankee Stadium?

●Ramos' striking out left-handed-hitting Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris in succession?

●The Twins' first double play, Bertoia to Gardner to Killebrew, after a sort of misplay by the Twins got the runner to first?

●The way Allison hit the ball, not only on his home run and single, but at other times when luck wasn't with him? Didn't his two hits start two rallies?

●The big, determined cut Earl Battey took when he came up after Allison's home run, trying hard to get to Whitey Ford when he might have been weakening?

●The way the Twins knocked the tricky Ford out of there although he had started as if he should win?

●The way Bertoia worked the pitcher for a walk in the big seventh and found the seats in the next inning?

●The way Cookie Lavagetto got his men to running bases the moment he noticed pitcher Jim Coates was leaving the gate open; and the way Versalles got the big jump in stealing second and third?

And, for that matter, how did you like—

●The final score?

Only Ol' Case's Fans Survived the Busy Broom

Special From the New York Times

NEW YORK—The fact that Casey Stengel's aimless conversation was missing wasn't the only change Tuesday as the New York Yankees opened the 1961 season against the Minnesota Twins.

When Stengel's replacement as manager, Ralph Houk, stepped into his office, he met with a shock.

It had been entirely remodeled. Gone were the pictures of the Stengel regime, and a modern desk replaced the rolltop model which had served Yankee managers since 1921.

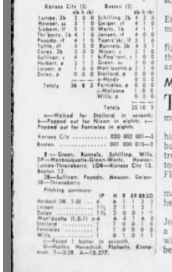
This was, apparently, a move by the Yankee management to make Houk feel at home.

Erring Bosox Fall to KC 5-2

BOSTON, Mass. — (AP) — Kansas City was staked to four unearned runs by a chilled and uncertain Boston infield Tuesday and went on to beat the Red Sox 5-2 in each team's American league opener.

Pitcher Ray Herbert, who operated effectively for six innings, drove in a pair of runs—both unearned—in the second. The A's pushed the lead to 4-1 in the sixth and were home safe.

A crowd of 10,277 shivering in a windy drizzle with the temperatures in the mid-50s, watched the Red Sox betray Bill Monbouquette's pitching efforts with a pair of errors in the second, one in the sixth and another in the ninth. Each was costly.



THEY RELISH COMBAT

"SCRAPPY" MAY BE THE WORD for the 1961 Minnesota football team.

It was the word for the sophomores of 1960. Now, as juniors and experienced players, their scrappy leadership may become a factor in the team's play.

The coaches were first won to Julian Hook and Dick Enga last season by their scrappiness alone. Because of it they concluded that places had to be found for them in the lineup. To do so they had to assign the boys new positions which they mastered soon enough to be of value late.

There was no more fiery competitor on any field last fall than the Gopher sophomore, Bobby Bell at tackle.

The same characteristic is found also in halfback Bill Munsey and fullback Jerry Jones who have served their apprenticeship and are ready to contribute their scrappy leadership.

More experienced players must not be excluded. Ends Bob Deegan and Tom Hall have more than the normal allowance of fight.

Without reflection on any past squads, who could fight a little, the impression is that the 1961 squad, on this one point of temperament at any rate, may surpass any of the post-war squads.

MUST RESPECT MACHEN

THE BARELY NOTICED VICTORY of Eddie Machen over big Mike DeJohn in San Francisco Monday must have an impact on the heavyweight situation.

Dislike Machen if you will, but do not underestimate him. He came up brilliantly for a while, then leveled off; but he is coming again. He is thoroughly seasoned, extremely dangerous, sound in every move and his tendency to caution would be in his favor against the impetuous Floyd Patterson.

Of more than any opponent Patterson has met it may be said of Machen, "Once he gets an opponent hurt he won't let him get away. He will know what to do."

Fans over-stress the first round knockout Ingemar Johansson scored against Machen. Remember Ingo scored a third-round knockout against Patterson. Boxing people will tell you that a first-round knockout is more likely to be flukey than a third-round knockout.

DOESN'T MIND FACING YANKS

Ramos: Had Good Stuff, Curve

By TOM BRIERE
Minneapolis Tribune Sports Writer

NEW YORK — Pedro Ramos of the Twins is a merry Cuban who likes cowboy guns and pitching against the Yankees.

He was swarmed by New York writers Tuesday after stopping the Yanks 6-0.

"I had good stuff today," he told them. "A good curve, fast ball, change of pace. I don't mind pitching against the Yankees. Some other clubs are just as tough."

Pedro's questioners wanted him to say that ex-Yankee pitcher Ed Lopat, now a Twins' coach, gave him special tips on the Yankee sluggers.

"We went over the hitters beforehand," he said. "I knew them all before. Maybe I learned something more."

Ramos' fancy three-hitter made a man of the hour out of the free-wheeling Cuban who startled newcomers to the Twins' training camp by cavorting in a flashy cowboy outfit complete with guns.

But he was all business on the mound at Yankee stadium.

"I could throw strikes when I had to," he explained.

Lopat has paid particular attention to Ramos' curve this spring. "I want him to become more consistent with it," Lopat commented. "Before it was a sloppy pitch with him — all over. Today he was keeping it down and could throw it for strikes."

Earl Battey, who caught for Pedro, said the pitcher threw a good mixture. "He was changing speeds the best I've seen him. But I've caught better games he pitched last year and lost."

The Yanks' Tony Kubek seemed to think Ramos had a new pitch. "Maybe he was just slowing up better on the curve than I've ever seen him do before. He was tough.

Mickey Mantle, who struck out twice and drew his routine Yankee stadium boos in the process, said he was being fooled by Ramos' sliders.

Manager Cookie Lavagetto added this verdict on Ramos' performance:

"He pitched like that last year for us but he was losing in tough luck. Today he won. He's a good pitcher."

How Twins Got Their Runs

By Staff Writer

NEW YORK — Here's a rundown on how the Twins scored their six runs Tuesday:

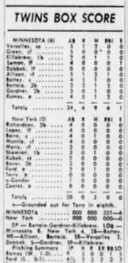
No. 1 — Bob Allison's 315-foot homer in seventh inning.

No. 2 and 3—Earl Battey doubled, Reno Bertoia walked, Billy Gardner sacrificed, Pedro Ramos singled in two runs.

No. 4 and 5 — Reno Bertoia homered behind Allison's single and Battey's fielder's choice.

No. 6 — Zoilo Versalles singled, stole second and third, scored on Harmon Killebrew's sacrifice fly.

TWINS BOX SCORE



Ford Stalled at Second

AP WIREPHOTO

TWINS' BILLY GARDNER VAULTS OVER WHITEY FORD ON DOUBLE PLAY
Gardner took Reno Bertoia's throw to force Ford, threw to first

Vikings Get NFL West Division Spot

By JIM KLOBUCHAR
Minneapolis Tribune Sports Writer

Minnesota's Vikings will play in their inaugural year as members of the National Football league's Western conference — the best of all possible worlds for the fledgling team.

It means such football mighties as the Baltimore Colts, Green Bay Packers and Chicago Bears will play at Metropolitan stadium next fall.

THE BEARS open the Vikings' 14-game schedule Sept. 17 at the stadium.

In a revised schedule formula announced by NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle, the Vikings will be matched on a home-and-home basis against the Colts, Packers, Bears, Los Angeles Rams, Detroit Lions, San Francisco 49ers and the Dallas Cowboys.

All but Dallas, last year's league infant now assigned to the Eastern conference, are Western members.

MINNESOTA and Dallas were to have operated in 1961 as unattached "swing teams," scheduled to play each of the other 12 teams once. The new conference assignments are permanent.

The league dropped the swing team idea because of the availability of ball parks earlier than expected in some of the cities.

"It couldn't be better for us," said Viking general manager Bert Rose. "Chicago and Green Bay are natural rivals of Minnesota. The rest of the Western conference teams all play colorful, wide-open football."

THE VIKINGS have back-to-back games with Green Bay Oct. 22 at Metropolitan stadium and in Green Bay Oct. 29.

They finish their home

Vikings
Continued on Page 20

VIKINGS SCHEDULE

Sept. 17—Chicago at Minnesota.
Sept. 24—Minnesota at Dallas.
Oct. 1—Minnesota at Baltimore.
Oct. 8—Dallas at Minnesota.
Oct. 15—San Francisco at Minnesota.
Oct. 22—Green Bay at Minnesota.
Oct. 29—Minnesota at Green Bay.
Nov. 5—Minnesota at Los Angeles.
Nov. 12—Baltimore at Minnesota.
Nov. 19—Detroit at Minnesota.
Nov. 26—Minnesota at San Francisco.
Dec. 3—Los Angeles at Minnesota.
Dec. 10—Minnesota at Detroit.
Dec. 17—Minnesota at Chicago.

BASEBALL STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	Minn.	Chi.	Cle.	KC	LA	NY	Bos.	Was.	Det.	W	L	Pct.	GB
MINN.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	0	1.000	—
Chicago	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	1.000	—
Cleveland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	1.000	—
Kan. City	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	0	1.000	—
Los. Ang.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	0	1.000	—
N. York	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	1	.000	1
Boston	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	1	.000	1
Baltimore	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	1	.000	1
Washgton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	1	.000	1
Detroit	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	1	.000	1

RESULTS TUESDAY

MINNESOTA 6, New York 0.
Cleveland 9, Detroit 5.
Kansas City 5, Boston 2.
Los Angeles 7, Baltimore 2.
Only games scheduled.

GAMES TONIGHT

Los Angeles (Garver 4-9) at Baltimore (Barber 10-7).
Chicago (Pierce 14-7) at Washington (Daniels 1-3).
Only games scheduled.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	Pit.	Cin.	St. L.	LA	SF	Chi.	Mil.	Phi.	Won	Lost	Pct.	GB
Pittsburgh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	1.000	—
Cincinnati	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	1.000	—
St. Louis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	1.000	—
Los Angeles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0	1.000	—
Philadelphia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	1	.000	1
San Francisco	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	1	.000	1
Chicago	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	1	.000	1
Milwaukee	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	1	.000	1

RESULTS TUESDAY

Cincinnati 7, Chicago 1.
St. Louis 2, Milwaukee 1 (10 innings).
Pittsburgh 8, San Francisco 7.
Los Angeles 6, Philadelphia 2.

GAMES TODAY

Pittsburgh (Law 20-9) at San Francisco (Loes 3-2).
Philadelphia (Sullivan 6-16) at Los Angeles (Podres 14-12), night.
Only games scheduled.

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