

Who Did What in Rhubarb? Cronin to Rule

Did Sam Mele of the Twins throw a punch at umpire Bill Valentine? Did Valentine push Mele away to incense the Minnesota manager?

These are the questions president Joe Cronin of the American League will take under advisement in deciding whether to fine, suspend, either or both, or completely exonerate Mele and Valentine for their dispute in Sunday's first game at Metropolitan Stadium.

Cronin, fortunately, witnessed the dispute—and the decisions causing them—in the first person.

Although Cronin would not commit himself, it's a good bet Mele will be let off with no more than a fine.

"I saw the whole affair," said Cronin, "but I will make no statement on it until I read the written report submitted by the umpire."

Mele had to be restrained and pulled away from Valentine after being ejected by the umpire on a play at first base in the sixth inning. Valentine called Jim Fregosi of Los Angeles safe on an infield hit to shortstop Zoilo Veras of the Twins on a quick decision.

Second-baseman Rich Rollins, who was mousupped at second base in the fifth inning on a questioned "out" call by umpire Bill McKinley, came over to Valentine and questioned the sixth-inning call.

"I was mad because Fregosi was out," said Rollins. "I don't know what I said, but Valentine shook me away."

Valentine took off his cap to make it more emphatic in chasing Rollins back to his position.

This brought Mele and the rest of the Twins players into the rhubarb. Valentine appeared to push off Mele, and Mele appeared to lead with his left—not a real swing, but sort of a push at Valentine's right shoulder.

But the story came out differently between games.

Mele said, "I felt some pushing, and I stumbled into Valentine."

After all of the firing was over yesterday and Valentine figured it was a case of delayed decisions at home plate in the second game, the beset umpire was willing to give his version of the first-game feud with Mele and the Twins.

Did Mele hit you?

"No, Valentine answered, refusing to hide behind the club amendment."

Did you push Mele?

"No, Valentine said, indicating there was a lot of jostling going on in the scene at first base."

Did you stick your finger in Mele's face?

"Honestly," Bill said, "I don't know." "You make a lot of gestures when you talk to people in a jam, season like that."

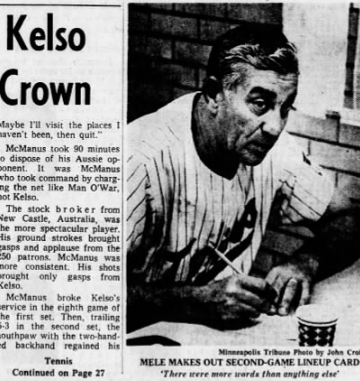
Valentine said he removed his cap and waved Rollins out of the argument, "because it was not his place to argue. Maybe the first baseman or the catcher, but not Rollins."

The first baseman never said boo. Then Mele came out and went on ground.

Valentine said he would



THERE'S NO DOUBT: SAM MELE (REAR) HAS BEEN EJECTED. The rebuffed umpire is Bill Valentine; Earl Battey watches.



MELE MAKES OUT SECOND-GAME LINEUP CARD. "There were more words than anything else."

Minneapolis Tribune

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MONDAY, JULY 19, 1965 . . . 25

Twins End Skid, Split With L.A.

By TOM BRIERE
Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writer

The first-place Twins and seventh-place Los Angeles took Sunday in ending losing streaks by dividing a doubleheader at Metropolitan Stadium before 23,313 persons.

The Angels won the first game 5-3 to scissor a string of three losses in a row, eight straight over-all on the road, in a game highlighted by Twins manager Sam Mele's run-in with umpire Bill Valentine.

The Twins captured the second game 5-4 to snap a four-game losing skid, in a wild, running game decided by Bob Allison's unearned run in the eighth inning.

BASEBALL STANDINGS

(Key: Read across for victories; read down for losses.)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Twins	55	33	.625	—
Cleveland	51	38	.572	5 1/2
Chicago	51	38	.572	5 1/2
Baltimore	51	38	.572	5 1/2
Detroit	47	38	.554	9 1/2
New York	44	47	.483	14 1/2
Los Angeles	42	47	.471	16 1/2
Washington	33	54	.370	25 1/2
Boston	32	54	.370	26 1/2
Kansas City	27	59	.310	31 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	55	28	.663	—
Cincinnati	52	28	.650	3 1/2
San Fran.	47	39	.547	8 1/2
Milwaukee	47	40	.538	9 1/2
Philadelphia	46	42	.524	10 1/2
St. Louis	45	45	.500	11 1/2
Pittsburgh	45	47	.489	12 1/2
Houston	40	47	.460	17 1/2
Chicago	41	50	.450	18 1/2
New York	29	61	.326	29 1/2

The division left the Twins holding tightly to a 3 1/2-game American League lead over a three-way tandem of Chicago, Cleveland and Baltimore in second place.

Minnesota and Los Angeles will try it again today at 8 p.m. in the third game of the series.

FIRST GAME—

LOS ANGELES' runner in Los Angeles, featuring the leading base stealer of the American League in Jose Cardenal with 28, "stole" a 5-3 victory over the Twins in the first game.

For Twins' routers, whose 47 innings lost their fourth straight, this has no reference to any decisions by umpire Bill McKinley or Bill Valentine, but rather to two stolen bases by Cardenal and a decisive double steal for the Angels' margin of victory in the seventh inning.

THE ANGELS held a 3-1 lead into the seventh inning, with range Fred Newman and the Angels' outdoing Jim East of the Twins en route to his 10th triumph.

Dwight Siebler, veteran Twins

McManus Whips Kelso for N.W. Tennis Crown

By BOB FOWLER
Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writer

Jim McManus will return in 1966 to seek his third straight Northwest invitational tennis championship . . . unless a woman upsets his plans.

The redheaded lefty from Berkeley, Calif., successfully defended his title Sunday by whipping Australian Doug Kelso 6-4, 7-5, 6-3 at the Minikabda Country Club.

Thus, the 24-year-old McManus became only the second two-time winner in the eight-year history of the event.

Kelso salvaged one championship trophy by teaming with Willie Hernandez, Philippine Davis Cup player, to defeat McManus and Wendell Ottum of Minneapolis in doubles 6-3, 1-6, 6-4.

Last month McManus graduated from the University of California. He majored in commercial art, but will continue to play in tournaments this year instead of retiring to a drawing board. This week he's scheduled to compete in the Pennsylvania State Open at Philadelphia.

"I'm not sure when I'll quit playing in these tournaments," the 18th ranked player in the United States said. "I'll keep with it, if I can sense that my game is still improving—and if I don't get married."

"I like to travel and tennis allows you to go anywhere."

Maybe I'll visit the places I haven't been, then quit."

McManus took 90 minutes to dispose of his Aussie opponent. It was McManus who took command by charging the net like Man O'War, not Kelso.

The stock broker from New Castle, Australia, was the more spectacular player. His ground strokes brought gasps and applause from the 500 patrons. McManus was more consistent. His shots brought only gasps from Kelso.

McManus broke Kelso's service in the eighth game of the first set. Then, trailing 5-3 in the second set, the southpaw with the two-handed backhand regained his



MELE MAKES OUT SECOND-GAME LINEUP CARD. "There were more words than anything else."

Kansas City Almost 'Major League'

boxes to watch games and meets the writers on their own field.

So there he sat Saturday in seat 65 in the Met Stadium press box and you approached him in the club on the shoulder manner prompted by the foregoing thoughts.

How about adding a good baseball team to your other

Cullum's Column
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CULLUM'S COLUMN

By Dick Cullum

YOU HAVE JUST READ a national sports magazine in which an article deals with Charles O. Finley when you come face to face with the subject of the article.

It deals with Finley's opinions of what baseball needs.

He wants showmanship. With that in mind he pastured sheep on his right-field embankment at Kansas City and later installed a menagerie with an odd assortment of creatures. He put his team into grasshopper uniforms and built the pennant porch, then the one-half pennant porch. Both of these brought reprimands from league headquarters because they distorted the baseball field.

Charles Finley

He adopted a Missouri mule as the team's mascot and transported the mule to other American League parks.

Finley is also commended, in this article, for quarreling with Kansas City officers, and attempting to move his franchise.

HOW ABOUT A TEAM?

UPON CONCLUDING the article you say, "Okay, the menagerie, the mule, the pennant porch, the uniforms, the rebellious behavior—baseball may need them all, but doesn't it need one more thing? Doesn't it need one more good baseball team?"

You wonder whether Charles O. has become so engrossed in showmanship that he has neglected the main objective and let his team fall some 25 games behind first place.

This must be said for Charles O. He is the only owner in the American League who ventures into baseball press

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