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TWINS DROP FIRST 'BOMB' ON L.A.

KAAT VS. KOUFAX IN SERIES TODAY

Jim Kaat will pitch for the Twins today in the second game of the World Series against the ace of the Dodgers' staff, 26-game winner Sandy Koufax, in Metropolitan Stadium at 1 p.m.

The Twins bombed the Dodgers' 23-game winner, Don Drysdale, for seven hits, including home runs by Don Mincher and Zoilo Versalles, in 2⅓ innings en route to an 8-2 opening game victory Wednesday.

Koufax (26-8) would not pitch yesterday, which was a Jewish holiday. Kaat has an 18-11 record.

In spite of last night's rain, the field will be in good condition and the weatherman predicted only a slight chance of rain for today's game. The field was covered, of course, last night.

Both managers, Sam Mele of the Twins and Walter Alston of the Dodgers, will make some slight lineup adjustments today.

Mele will use his right-handed platoon, Bob Allison replacing Sandy Valdespino in left field and Joe Nossek instead of Jimmie Hall in center field.

Alston said he'd use the same players, but would probably elevate right-handed hitting Lou Johnson from fifth to the third or fourth spot in the batting order.

Mele: Mincher 'Lit' the Fuse . . . We Exploded

By SAM MELE
Twins Manager

The home run Don Mincher hit in the third inning to tie the opening game of the World Series with the Los Angeles Dodgers gave our team a great lift.

Dodger pitcher Don Drysdale had struck out three of our hitters, and with his record of having allowed just one earned run in the last 27 innings you naturally wonder.

Mincher's home run touched us off. Then we exploded like I know we can when we batted around and scored six runs in the third.

It's a funny thing. Tuesday afternoon, one writer asked me how many runs I thought we needed to win. I said eight and that the Dodgers would then score a couple. So I actually picked the score of the game.

My 73-year-old mother, Anna, met Vice-President Hubert Humphrey and saw our team play for the first time. So, it was a big day for the Meles.

Frank Quilici got two big hits for us in the third inning. Frank showed me what he could do at Washington, when he got some important hits to help us clinch the pennant. But I don't want to take any thing away from Jerry Kindall. He made a great contribution, too, during the season.

Zoilo Versalles hit a big blow to put us in front when he hit the home run with two men on in the third. This proved to everybody that we could hit Drysdale and gave everybody a lot of confidence.

We know the Dodgers don't score too many runs, so even a 3-1 lead is fairly safe when you have a

Mele
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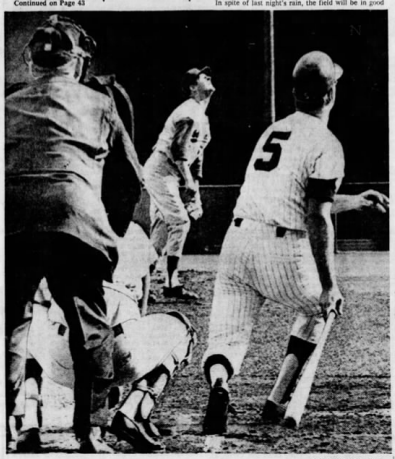

TWINS' DON MINCHER SWINGS—ALL EYES ON BALL AS IT HEADS OUT OF THE PARK
Dodger battery of catcher John Roseboro and Don Drysdale watch, as does Umpire Ed Hurley
United Press International

Quilici Saga: Plantation to Series Star

By SID HARTMAN
Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writer

A year ago today Frank Quilici, one of several Minnesota Twin heroes in the 8-2 opening World Series victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers, was working on a tobacco plantation in North Carolina.

He also was raising four beef cattle so he and his buddy could have food to eat in the wintertime.

"I needed to make some money and didn't have time to listen to the Series or watch it on television," said Quilici, who tied a major league record with two hits in one inning—the Twins' big six-run third.

The Twin second baseman had hit only .261 for the Class A Charlotte team in the Sally League last year and didn't see any immediate hope of making the major leagues.

Speaking of his big day yesterday, the 26-year-old Western Michigan grad said:

"I felt a lot better when I saw Zoilo Versalles' home run go out of the park for three runs than I did on my own double.

"I hit one of Don Drysdale's breaking pitches for the double. Fortunately, I got a piece of the ball and it went down the third base line."

Quilici said he didn't think anything about tying a record when he got his second hit, a single in the same inning, until he came back to the bench and outfielder Joe Nossek remarked: "What are you trying to do—set a record?"

Quilici reported he has been so busy getting hotel reservations for his parents, Guy and Laura Quilici, and other relatives that he didn't have a chance to get nervous before the Series. His parents, who live in Chicago, Ill., saw him play in the majors for the first time.

"I was happy to get the chance to play in the Series," said Frank. "Sam Mele has been playing hunches all year, and I guess he must have had a hunch to give me a chance to play."

First baseman Don Min-

Quilici
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'Break-Through' Gives Series a New Aspect

THIS MAY HAVE BEEN THE break-through that you were talking about to Tom Sheehan the night before the game.

It was in the World Series hospitality room, where Tom was holding up Horace Stoneham's end of the sociability. In addition to being a San Francisco Grant at heart, Tom is a National Leaguer with no reservations.

His voice comes from 'way down here, and his repartee, when an argument is running, sparkles with such retorts as, "You must be out of your mind," or, "How can you insult my intelligence?"

OLD TOM KNOWS ALL

SO TOM WAS TELLING YOU WHAT great pitchers Don Drysdale and Sandy Koufax are, and this could not be denied.

"The Twins haven't seen any pitching like they'll see from those two," Tom said.

You said, "But what are the Dodgers going to do for runs? They don't get many."

"Don't insult my intelligence," said Tom. "All they need is a run, maybe two. They bunt and run and work a man around to score on a fly ball or an infield out. Then they turn it over to Drysdale or Koufax and they slam the door in your face."

THERE MAY BE A FLAW

YOU SAID, "CERTAINLY THEY ARE the best pitching pair in baseball, but is the strength all concentrated in two men? That is your strength; but it is also your

Cullum's Column
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Don's Knee Gave, Then—Booom!

By TOM BRIERE
Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writer

Don Drysdale's left knee crumpled under him as he fielded a Twins' bunt in the six-run third inning.

"That was the start of the decisive inning against us," said Drysdale, reconstructing an 8-2 Dodger loss in the first game of the World Series Wednesday at Metropolitan Stadium.

"But, please," Don was quick to add, "I'm not offering that as any sort of an alibi. My knee was all right when they hit those home runs. It stopped right back in place when I got up.

The 6-foot-6 Dodger right hander said he lacked control. He admitted he did not have "command of the game.

"You can't afford to make mistakes against a good-hitting club like the Twins and hope to survive."

Drysdale, who posted a 23-12 record in the National League, admitted he served two bad pitches to Zoilo Versalles and Don Mincher for home runs.

"Versalles' three-run homer broke the game open," Don continued. "I struck him out the first time up on a fast ball, up and in. On Versalles' homer, it was a fast ball up and out over the plate. It was too far out over the plate, and about six inches lower than I wanted it.

"Mincher hit a curve rather a high slider, inside —another bad pitch."

Returning to Drysdale's knee, it is a chronic cartilage condition he has lived with all season. He always wraps the knee heavily before pitching, and it will not hinder his scheduled return to pitching action in the fourth game of the Series Sunday in Los Angeles.

Dodger Trainer Bill Buhler said the knee has slipped out "about 10 times" this season. "But it comes back when he stretches it out."

Only two of the Twins' six runs in the third inning were earned, because Jim Lefebvre bobbled Doy's throw to first base on Jim Grant's attempted sacrifice bunt.

"I didn't slip on Grant's

Dodgers
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Unhappy Grant: I've Been Better

Earl Battey, the Minnesota Twin catcher, said he has seen Jim Grant pitch many better games than he did in the 8-2 World Series victory Wednesday when he gave up 10 hits.

And Grant, a 21-game winner for the Twins in the regular season, agreed.

"I'm not Sandy Koufax and I'm not Cy Young," said Grant. "And I didn't pitch well against the Dodgers.

"I didn't have my good curve ball and my change up didn't do what I wanted it to do. And I was wild. I must have thrown 90 per cent fast balls whereas normally I throw about 65 per cent.

"I think I know what was wrong but it's a secret. I have a feeling that I will pitch better the next time I face the Dodgers."

Grant also said he considered confidential some things he learned about pitching to Maury Wills and Junior Gilliam in the game. "They surprised me," said Grant.

How important was this game to Grant?

"Some games during the season meant more to me than the opening World Series victory. But don't misunderstand—it was a big game.

"But we had to win some big games during the season to get to the World Series. That's why I said that."

When kidded about his double in the sixth, Grant said: "I'm just a good hitter. Remember, I played shortstop for San Diego in the spring of 1967 until they made me a pitcher because Cleveland needed pitching."

The Dodgers accused Grant of throwing a spit ball, which he denied.

"Sure, I spit on my hands when I was given a new ball, so I could rub the gloss off it," said Grant. "But I didn't throw any spit balls."

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