

Mantle Doesn't Miss Baseball as Much as He Imagined

By SID HARTMAN
Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writer

Quizzing Mickey Mantle, retired New York Yankees outfielder who was here Thursday on business.

Q—When did you make your final decision to quit baseball?

A—I went to spring training and intended to try and play again. I did a little running on the golf course at home in Dallas. When I got to Florida my knees were back there. I got into Fort Lauderdale on a Friday night. I was supposed to report the next morning. I phoned Ralph Houk (Yankees manager) and told him I was unable to work out again but that my knee was feeling bad and I doubted that I could make it. We talked seriously then right about the time and how I felt. I didn't feel I could play like I used to and it wasn't as much fun. Houk told me that if I didn't want to play any more we could have a press conference the next morning when I could announce my retirement. So I met with Michael Bauer (Yankees president) and I made the decision to quit. It all happened in about 24 hours.

Q—Do you miss baseball?

A—I don't miss it nearly as much as I thought I would. I've been in baseball for 20 years. I got spoiled with the type of life the Yankees get me accustomed to. I hope that that new restaurant—Mickey Mantle's Country Kitchen—will keep me busy and with the same amount of money as I don't miss baseball. I think this is going to be even better financially for me than the Yankees.

Q—If you had to do it over again would you change anything?

A—I had 18 great years with the Yankees. The only thing I regret is that I didn't retire with a .300 lifetime batting average. (He wound up hitting .288.)

Q—Would you consider managing?

A—I don't know if I'm even qualified to be a manager. I think Billy Martin is going to be a great manager and I think Ralph Houk is the best manager I ever saw. Neither one of them had any natural baseball ability. They were great ball players because they played in wins and much and they found a way. I don't think that I could qualify as a manager like they do. They know how to do everything in baseball. The thing I had was natural ability. I could hit from both sides, run fast and throw hard. That was about it. I don't know much about the game. I know very little about pitching. Billy had to fight for everything he got in baseball.

so he learned the game inside out. Houk was in the bullpen all the time studying the game. They are a good example of the fact that the great player doesn't necessarily make the successful manager. Anything Billy doesn't know he will pick up in a hurry.

Q—Martin said the other day that you might be interested in joining him as a coach a year from now when you get your business in order.

A—if we keep opening those restaurants like I think we are, I'm going to be busy. They are doing real well and I have to attend all of the formal openings. I renewed with Billy for 11 years. We were more the brothers than friends. We talked about a lot of things including owning a coach. I always thought Billy would be a coach.

Mantle

Continued on Page 24

• Sid Hartman . 32 • The Minneapolis Tribune • A.L. Box Scores 32
• Dick Cullum . 33 • N.L. Box Scores 32

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 1969 . . . 31

Canadiens Win Eastern Crown

BOSTON, Mass. (AP)—Big minute before the crowd gave Claude Provost a triumph what had happened in the 11:28 of the second round. Provost had also made the victory game. Steve Savard at 1:10 of the third period on a power play to give the Boston Bruins the Montreal Canadiens in a 2-1 victory over the Boston Bruins in the Stanley Cup.

Montreal's first-ever coach Claude Ruel praised his solid defensive corps as much as the goal-scoring, however, with the covered wings 15 for the victory which sends them to the East Division final round for the Stanley Cup.

The Canadiens, who have won the coveted trophy 15 times, took the East Division best-of-seven final series 4-2 from the Bruins in advancing to the championship round against the St. Louis Blues in the West Division playoff winner.

Believe he had up the biggest playoff game since 1961 by taking a pass from Provost and beating Boston goalie Gerry Cheevers with a shot flip.

The game-winning goal slung the Bruins and a pattern crowd of 14,800 at Boston Garden. It took a full



REGGIE JACKSON DUMPED DICK WOODSON (18) HUNTING BRAWL. Greg Nettles was followed by Sal Bando, coach John McNamee (11).

A's Tumble Twins 6-4 in Donnybrook

By DAVE MOHA
Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writer

Parties will argue that Reggie Jackson's bat is the most powerful in baseball, but it's a good bet that the 7.085 fans who witnessed Oakland's 6-4 victory over the Minnesota Twins Thursday will take more over the fifth-inning brawl than the game.

The fight, touched off by Minnesota's rookie pitcher Dick Woodson and A's slugger Reggie Jackson, who is the opinion of those who never have missed a Twins home game the biggest and best of several in the history of the team.

Jackson, a 6-foot, 190-pounder, had his home run against Dave Brunell, Twins pitcher, come away from the fight.

Woodson, a 5-foot-10, 160-pounder, had his home run against Dave Brunell, Twins pitcher, come away from the fight.

Woodson, who had been hit by a line drive from Jackson, hit the Twins' first home run in the first two innings against Dave Brunell, Twins pitcher, come away from the fight.

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GREENE CAPTURES LEAD IN NELSON GOLF CLASSIC

DALLAS, Texas (AP)—Bert Greene finished with three straight birdies Thursday for a two-over-par 80 and a one-stroke lead in the first round of the \$100,000 Byron Nelson Golf Classic.

Greene has his tee shot on the 18th into the woods. His second shot ran through a trap and stopped on the fringe of the green, 30 feet above the hole.

(Score: ... 2-2.)

"I was just trying to lay it down there," he said, but it fell. He had made puts of 15 and 8 feet on 18 and 17.

Chris Blocker also birdied the last three holes for a 67 to tie Julian Barron and Bob Nieme for second place. Joe Galderano of Worthington, Minn., also 38-15-73, Todd Deming of Minneapolis, 38-38-74 and Dave Conlin of Crosby, Minn., 36-38-75.

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MINNESOTA TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JOHN COOK
HARMON KILLEBREW (3) WATCHED BATTLE. Woodson, Jackson, Nettles, Bonds appeared.

BASEBALL STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

WEST	EAST
Chicago 4 1 561	Baltimore 11 7 721
TWINS 6 6 571	Detroit 8 6 571
Kansas City 8 7 571	Houston 5 7 571
Oakland 8 7 533	New York 8 8 571
Seattle 5 7 382	Washington 7 10 412
California 4 8 333	Cleveland 1 12 377

Results Thursday:
Oakland 6, Minnesota 4.
Washington at Boston, postponed, rain.
Baltimore 5, Detroit 2.
New York 11, Cleveland 3.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

WEST	EAST
L. Angeles 10 4 714	Chicago 11 5 688
Atlanta 10 4 667	Pittsburgh 10 6 687
San Fran. 8 6 571	New York 8 6 600
Cincinnati 6 6 503	Philadelphia 7 6 600
San Diego 6 10 255	St. Louis 8 6 480
Houston 4 10 255	Philadelphia 5 8 385

Results Thursday:
St. Louis 3, Chicago 2.
San Francisco 3, Atlanta 1.
Philadelphia 7, Montreal 1.
Pittsburgh at New York, postponed, rain.
San Diego 6, Houston 1.
Cincinnati at San Francisco, postponed.