

MAJOR FLASHES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

STUART'S NAILED BAT NAILED

DICK STUART'S solo home run in the ninth inning of a 7-3 Red Sox loss to the **Twins**, May 30, came with a new bat after the bat with which he had hit five homers in a week was disallowed. Stuart had hammered five nail brads into his lucky bat to preserve it from further chipping, but they were spotted by the **Twins** in the sixth inning. Umpire Larry Napp then disposed of the bat. "I wouldn't have put those nails in," Stuart said later, "except it was the only bat I had with me. It wasn't legal."

White Sox righthander John Buzhardt, who made seven starts without giving up a home run, had his streak broken, June 2, when the Indians slugged him for three round-trippers. Leon Wagner, Max Alvis and Larry Brown all tagged Buzhardt for homers. Wagner's came first and broke Buzhardt's homerless string at 52 innings.

The Athletics' Diego Segui became the first hurler to win twice against the Yankees this season and improved his career record against them to 4-2 with a 4-1 triumph, May 29. Segui, who blanked the New Yorkers earlier, yielded six hits before being relieved with one out in the ninth.

MOOSE ENDS PINCH-HIT RUT

MOOSE SKOWRON'S seventh-inning single in the nightcap of a double-header against the Indians, May 31, was the first hit by a Senator pinch-hitter in 25 trips to the plate. Three batters had walked and one was hit by a pitch during the streak.

For the first time in his major league career, Bo Belinsky did not walk a single batter in pitching a complete game when he stopped the **Twins** on seven hits, 4-1, May 27.

With 1-for-4 in the Yankees' 7-2 triumph over the Indians, May 27, Joe Pepitone's average against Cleveland this year dropped to .520 with 13-for-24. Teammate Bobby Richardson's mark against the Indians dropped to .483 with two hits in five trips.

BRUMLEY WELCOMES RADATZ

DIFFERENT from many batters in the league, the Senators' catcher Mike Brumley has not been mystified by the deliveries of Red Sox reliever Dick Radatz. Brumley reached base in each of his first five trips against Radatz, three times with singles, once with a walk and once when Radatz booted a sacrifice bunt.

Bill Maughn, Angels' scout who was stricken with a kidney infection recently, is recovering in Kings Daughters Hospital in Yazoo City, Miss.

Carl Yastrzemski, the league's 1963 batting champion, was sidelined for several days after he spiked himself in the left ankle as he slid into second base on a first-inning steal against the Angels, June 1. Ten stitches were needed to close the wound.

A's OVERTAKE PIZARRO

WHEN the Athletics defeated Juan Pizarro, 4-1, May 28, it marked the first time the K. C. club had defeated the Chicago southpaw since June 12, 1962, when they registered a 2-1 decision. Last season, Pizarro chalked up a 4-0 record at the expense of the Athletics en route to a 16-8 log for the campaign.

Moose Skowron, Senator first baseman, was honored between games of a double-header against the Indians, May 31, by the Arlington (Va.) Lodge, Royal Order of Moose.

Twin Park Stuart Favorite; Eight Homers in 12 Games

BOSTON, Mass. — It's easy to understand why Boston slugger Dick Stuart considers Metropolitan Stadium in the Twin Cities the easiest ball park in the major leagues for a home-run hitter. Stuart has played 12 games in Met Stadium since coming into the American League and has hit eight homers there.

"I have played in both leagues and I believe **Minnesota** is the softest touch for home runs," Stuart said. "It's easier to hit a homer there than in Fenway Park because the left field fence is so high in Boston."

NATIONAL LEAGUE

MATTY ALOU'S WRIST BROKEN

G IANT outfielder Matty Alou suffered a fractured left wrist when struck by a pitch thrown by the Pirates' Bob Veale, June 2. Alou was appearing as a pinch-hitter in the seventh inning of a 3-1 setback. He was placed on the disabled list, June 3.

Ernie Banks was credited with his first stolen base for the Cubs since 1962 when Met second baseman Ron Hunt failed to hold catcher Chris Cannizzaro's bounce peg on a misfired hit-and-run.

Sandy Koufax was the victim of a stolen base by Red hurler Joe Nuxhall, who blanked the Dodgers, 1-0, May 27. Nuxhall slid into second on his belly and said later, "Koufax wasn't paying any attention to me. He just about gave it to me. I thought Pete (Rose) might get a hit and it's easier to pitch with two runs than one. I don't ever remember stealing a base before."

REDS STILL SANDY'S NEMESIS

THE REDS' 1-0 victory over Sandy Koufax, May 27, was their seventeenth triumph in 28 decisions against the Dodgers' ace lefthander. Koufax has a winning career record against every other club in the league.

Joe Christopher of the Mets tied a National League record, May 28, when he collected his club's entire total of three hits as the Cubs' Larry Jackson hurled a 2-0 shutout. The feat had been accomplished six other times in league history.

Joe Nuxhall's 1-0 victory over the Dodgers, May 27, gave him three of the Reds' four shutouts to that point. His two others included a 1-0 job over the Colts in which Ken Johnson pitched a no-hitter and a 2-0 whitewash over the Phillies. The club's only other shutout was posted when Jim Maloney and John Tsitouris combined to blank the Dodgers, 3-0.

COLTS BREAK BUNNING HEX

THE COLTS had managed only one hit in 15½ innings against the Phillies' Jim Bunning until Mike White's misjudged fly went for a double in the seventh inning, May 29. Bunning, who had blanked the Colts on one hit the last time he faced them, had a perfect game until White's two-out hit dropped in front of Wes Covington. The Colts made up for lost time in the eighth by scoring five runs off the righthander. The Phillies rallied to win the contest, 7-6.

Until the Mets scored three runs in the second inning of a 5-3 loss to the Giants, May 31, lefthander Al Jackson had pitched 37 straight innings in which the Mets had not scored.

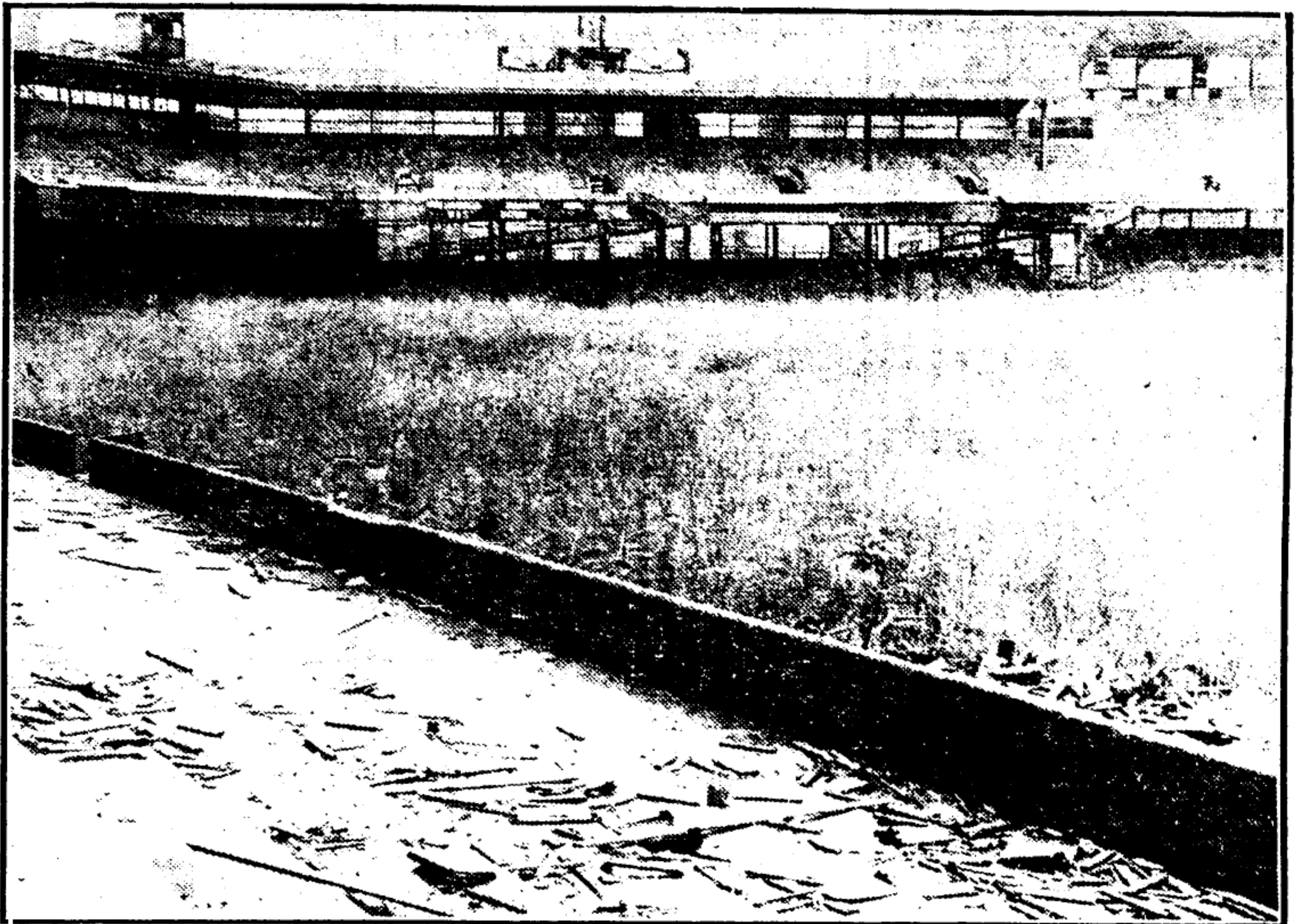
Juan Marichal's 5-3 victory over the Mets, May 31, kept the Giants' right-

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Deep in Debris Lies Pebble, Buried With Nat Memories



GRIFFITH STADIUM . . . Trash-Covered Graveyard of Departed Diamond Era

By JIMMY McCANNON

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Somewhere amidst the panorama of debris and decay that is now Griffith Stadium, once the oasis of the die-hard Washington baseball fan, lies a pebble.

This particular pebble holds a nostalgic place in the hearts of silvered Senator boosters, who almost out of necessity look to the past for baseball gratification.

The stadium, a ghostly relic of past grandeur, stands like a rusting metal skeleton, obsolete and bereft of a tenant since the old Senator team was spirited off to the Twin Cities of **Minnesota** and the new Washington team stabled down in the larger and more modern confines of D. C. Stadium.

There, in the haunted ruins, a mocking sign, still brightly painted, hangs above long-abandoned ticket windows:

"The Senators welcome you . . ." No trespassing signs are posted menacingly on barred doors and shattered glass windows.

Trash is littered everywhere. Vandals have carried off everything portable, even some slabs of concrete.

Yellow grass on the playing field is knee high, choked by weedy growth. In some spots, the weeds have sprouted through the cracked concrete walkways.

Tiny Rock Never Was Found

The significant tiny pebble, a key to Washington's finest baseball hour, a victory in the 1924 World Series exactly 40 years ago, has never been found and seems destined to be lost forever as progress, symbolized by the wreckers' ball and steam shovel which knock down and root up the skeletons of the stadium.

Howard University has purchased the desolate site and will use it as an extension of its campus. One day, the grounds trod by Washington's baseball greats will house educational projects and buildings, among these a proposed university hospital.

While the stadium stands, however, the memories of Clark Griffith, Walter Johnson, Bucky Harris,

Sam Rice, Joe Judge, Goose Goslin and the other heroes float in the shadows.

In that golden '24 Series, with the Giants facing the Senators, Johnson, at 37, was rounding the final bend of a fabled career. Eighteen long seasons, 400 victories and 3,000 strikeouts were behind The Big Train. Bucky Harris, the Boy Wonder at 24, was playing second and managing the team.

Johnson started the first game, a 12-inning affair, and gave up 14 hits, including homers by George Kelly and Bill Terry, as New York took the Series lead. Tom Zachary won the second for Washington, the Giants the third and George Mogridge evened it at 2-2 with a victory for Washington.

Big Train Lost Second Decision

Johnson tried again in the fifth game, but again was defeated as the Senators went down, 6-2. Zachary evened it in the sixth game, setting the stage for the all-important seventh game and the pebble.

Harris homered to left in the fourth inning to get Washington off on the right foot, but the Giants got three in the sixth, forcing Mogridge to retire in favor of ace reliever Fred Marberry. The Nats tied it with two in the eighth and Johnson again got the nod from Harris to come in and hold the Giants.

He did, pitching superbly for four innings, as he fired his flaming fast ball on almost every pitch. In the historic twelfth inning, the Nats came to bat against New York's Jack Bentley.

After catcher Hank Gowdy lost Muddy Ruel's foul popup by stepping into his discarded mask, Muddy doubled over third base. Johnson, next up, clubbed a grounder that was juggled by shortstop Travis Jackson to put runners on first and second.

Earl McNeely, next up, cracked a Bentley pitch straight at Fred Lindstrom, New York's brilliant 18-year-old third baseman, for what looked like a sure double play until the ball hit our pebble, took a freak bounce and bounded out toward left as Ruel streaked with the winning run.

In the uproar that followed, Ruel, Harris and Johnson were carried off the field. Ironically, no one even bothered to pick up the pebble.

Iron-Man Kranepool Plays 50 Innings in 33½ Hours

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Ed Kranepool played 50 innings for two clubs within 33½ hours, May 30-31.

The 20-year-old first baseman played 18 innings in a double-header for Buffalo, May 30, and then was recalled by the Mets because of an injury to Tim Lincecum.

Kranepool arrived in New York

the next morning and played 32 innings, including the entire 23-frame nightcap, in the Mets' double-header against the Giants.

Kranepool collected 7-for-10, including two homers and a double, in Buffalo's twin-bill at Syracuse and 4-for-14 in the pair against the Giants.

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