

BRAVES PLAYED LIKE CHAMPIONS AND OUTCLASSED PHILLIES IN ALL DEPARTMENTS

WONDERFUL PITCHING STAFF
MAKES BOSTON FAVORITE IN
NATIONAL LEAGUE STRUGGLE

By Holding 26 Players, Stallings Is Enabled to Carry 11 Hurlers, Nine of Whom Are Stars in Splendid Condition

MANAGER PAT MORAN, of the Phillies, was right. Last Thursday Moran refused to send Alexander the Great to the mound against Brooklyn with the Phillies leading by one run after staging a sensational rally. A victory for the Phillies meant four victories out of five games played with the Dodgers, but the Philly manager refused to send his star to the mound, contending that he would rather take a chance on losing that game to Brooklyn in order to save Alexander for the series with Boston, which started the following day.

Eskine Mayer was sent to the mound and the Phillies were beaten, but Moran contended that the result was entirely satisfactory to him, as he did not fear the Dodgers so much as the Braves. The Philly boss had been watching the work of the Braves closely for some time, and was convinced that Stallings' team was the champions' most dangerous contender; and judging by the result of the past series between the Phillies and Boston, Moran was justified in giving one game to Brooklyn to save his star hurler for the following series.

Local fans who witnessed the five games between the Phillies and Braves are unanimous in the opinion that Stallings' team is the most powerful and best balanced aggregation in the National League, unless Boston was playing far above its game and the Phils were below form.

The Phillies were outplayed at every stage of the game, and really were fortunate to have won the first game of the series. Only the grand pitching of Alexander and the fact that the champions got all the best of the breaks prevented Boston from winning the first game, which would have given them a clean sweep of the five-game series. The run which enabled the Phillies to carry the Braves into extra innings was a fluke error, a rank error by Compton permitting Alexander to tally. The score remained a tie until Whitted clouted the ball over the fence in the 11th inning and gave the Phils a 2 to 1 victory.

Phillies Faced Best Pitching They Have Seen This Year

IT ALWAYS is a question whether great pitching or poor batting is responsible for the small number of runs and hits made by a team, and the optimistic local fans will console themselves by attributing the Phillies' defeats to light hitting; but we believe that the Phils were going at their normal clip and were not able to hit because they were facing the best pitching they have seen throughout the season.

The fact that Ed Reulbach and Pat Ragon, two veteran pitchers, who were looked upon as "has-beens" by some critics a year ago, completely baffled the Phillies, is given as a reason for the belief that the champions were in a natural batting slump; but as this pair of veterans have staged wonderful "come-backs" and have been effective against every team in the league throughout the season, the argument loses weight.

Fans, players, managers and critics who had watched the work of the Brooklyn pitchers believed that Robinson's staff was in grand shape prior to the series with the Phillies. The champions batted the Brooklyn pitchers to all parts of the field, and barring one game against Pfeffer hit so well that it was apparent that the batting slump had been shaken off.

The day following the series with Brooklyn, which found the Phillies batting at a terrific clip, Boston arrived in this city, and the fact that the champions were at the mercy of the Braves' pitchers in five successive games is almost a convincing argument that great pitching and not weak batting accounted for the four successive defeats.

Outclassed by Braves in Every Department

THE champions were outclassed in all other departments as well as in batting. The Boston defense, base running and fighting spirit were superior to that of the Phils, and it was apparent that Moran's team must play better ball if it hopes to win the pennant. Until two weeks ago the Braves had been going along in a haphazard manner because of the absence of Sherwood Magee and Johnny Evers, two of the most important cogs in Stallings' team. With these stars in the game against New York and the Phillies the Braves have won seven out of nine games and deserved all the victories gained.

Boston appears to be better equipped with pitching material than any other team in the league. Stallings is carrying 11 pitchers, nine of whom are in first-class condition. So long as the National League permits its teams to break the 21-player limit rule in such a manner, Boston is going to have a great advantage on the other teams simply because Stallings is carrying more pitchers than would be possible if the rule was enforced.

Stallings declares that the Braves could play a double-header every day from August 1 until the end of the season without crippling the pitching staff, and after the brilliant showing made by five of his pitchers here no one will dispute this point with him.

Hughes, Barnes, Ragon, Reulbach and Nehf were the only Boston pitchers used in the last series. When one considers that it was not necessary for Stallings to call upon Dick Rudolph, George Tyler or Nick Allen in order to stop the slugging of the Phils, it is not hard to understand why Stallings feels so confident that his pitching staff will turn the tide toward the Braves.

Barnes Proves Himself a Great Hurler

THE sensational work of Jess Barnes in the last series was perhaps the greatest feature from a Boston standpoint. Barnes joined the Braves last September and won six out of seven games pitched. Stallings was banking upon him to be the "iron man" of the staff this season, but he got off to a poor start and was placed on the ridiculous ineligible list shortly after the season opened. He remained on the ineligible list until two days before the series with the Phillies.

The youngster had shown great form in practice recently, and Stallings decided to take a chance on him against Alexander in preference to wasting a star pitcher. Barnes carried Alexander along for 11 innings in the first game of the series before the Phils won. Barnes' success in this game gave him confidence, and he not only pitched the final inning on Monday, but he also went back against Alexander in the last game of the series yesterday and blanked the Phils.

With airtight support Barnes also would have shut out the champions in the first game of the series. His sudden return to form gives Stallings an additional pitcher upon whom he had counted. Barnes' ability to stand plenty of work and his remarkable control will make him of great value to Stallings for relief pitching as well as regular work.

Phil's Pitching Staff Now in Poor Shape

YESTERDAY Barnes outpitched Alexander, although the latter had only one hit in the game. The Braves bunched four of their six hits off the Philly star in the fourth inning and tallied all of their runs. Aside from this inning Alexander pitched well enough to have won nine games out of ten. As was the case in the other games of the series, the Braves developed the "punch" at the right time.

Alexander's success in winning the first game of each series, giving the Phillies the jump on their opponents, caused Manager Moran to do quite a lot of thinking before he decided to send his star back at the Braves. If the Phils had won either game of Monday's double-header, it is likely that Alexander would have been given another day of rest and opened the series with the Giants; but the three straight defeats at the hands of the team most feared by the champions caused Manager Moran to change his plans.

The result is that the Phillies are in a bad way for pitching against the Giants. Alexander will be unable to work in the series with New York starting today, as the schedule calls for only a three-day stay in New York. Moran's strong point has been arising to an emergency, and the fans are confident that he will pull the team through the next two series, which really are the turning point of the season for the Phillies.

Greatest Fielding Game of the Season

YESTERDAY'S game was the most sensational fielding contest seen in this city this season, and it is hard to recall a game of recent years where so many spectacular and clean-cut plays were made by both teams. Often one team plays particularly brilliant ball while the opponents are staging a mediocre exhibition, but yesterday both teams took a hand at pulling remarkable fielding plays, though the Braves had an edge in this respect.

The infielders of both teams made unusual plays, with a one-handed catch of a line drive by Maranville and Stock's bare-handed stop of Snodgrass' grounder standing out as headline plays. But the most thrilling features of the game were catches by Magee and Snodgrass.

Oddly enough, both plays were made on balls hit by Dode Puskert, and each would have been good for a home run if the ball had escaped the fielder. In the first inning Magee made a sensational gloved-hand catch of a line drive while running at full speed. He was within two feet of the bleacher wall when he caught the ball. In the eighth inning Snodgrass made the most thrilling catch of the season when he took a drive from Puskert's bat just as he crashed into the bleacher wall in deep center. Snodgrass caught the ball with both hands, but with his back to the home plate. It was a wonderful effort.

TEACHING FRIEND WIFE TO SWIM



MORAN FAVORITE
OVER DILLON ON
EVE OF BATTLE

Odds of 5 to 4 on Pittsburgher to Win—Little Betting Done

BOTH PARTIES CONFIDENT

NEW YORK, June 28.—Many ring experts believe that Frank Moran will win over Jack Dillon in their ten-round bout in Brooklyn tomorrow night—without permitting the betting.

The betting today is 5 to 4 on Moran to win. Moronites have offered 1 to 3 that the Pittsburgher will knock out Dillon—but there isn't a superfluity of Dillon takers. Odds of 5 to 1 that Dillon won't knock out Moran are going begging.

Dillon is faster than Moran and shifter. But Moran's physical advantages are so great, that even the staunchest Dillon supporters are not confident that the "giant killer" can overcome them sufficiently to win the verdict.

Dillon on the eve of the fracas said: "I'm going to slug with Moran—and I'll beat him at his own game. I never backed away from any man—and I won't start with Moran."

Moran today sent a little message from White Sulphur Springs. It said: "Little Mary Ann (his right hander) is anxious to tickle Mr. Dillon's jaw. When Mary Ann does so, I have a suspicion that Mr. Dillon will be overcome—but not with joy. I'm in the best shape ever, and I am going to win that fight in a convincing way."

Moran doesn't worry over Dillon's threats to knock him out. "Johnson couldn't do it; Willard couldn't, nor could any other man that I ever met," he said.

The promoters of the fight announced today that they expect a \$50,000 house.

SMITH WINS FROM REAR: MEALEY AND MOORE DRAW

Heavyweight Brennan Loses on Foul in New York—Other Decisions

While there was little doubt as to Harry Smith's superiority in his match with Charley Rear at the Ryan A. C. Model Club here, it was a surprise when the latter, when Johnny Mealey held his former teacher, Pat Moore, on even terms for six rounds. Smith's harder punching ability enabled him to pile up a big lead in his intercard tilt with Rear. Although Moore showed to a greater advantage at close quarters, Mealey's distance work earned for him a draw.

The Ryan prelims follow: Jimmie Sacco defeated Tommy Riley in the semi-final; the referee stopped the contest between Packey Sullivan and Jack Dolan in the fifth round, when the latter complained of being hit an unfair blow. Charley Stien stopped Joe Ross in the second session, while Joe Rowland won from Bud Gray.

Preliminaries at the Model: Willie Spencer was entitled to a close decision over Billy Hines in the semi-final; Eddie McCloskey defeated Charlie Daggett. Frankie McCarthy won from Kid Gross; while Ace of Spades stopped Joe Swade in the fifth session.

NEW YORK, June 28.—Knockout Bill Brennan defeated Tommy Riley in the semi-final round of his bout with Joe Cox at the Broadway Sporting Club last night. The round had not progressed very far when Brennan swung what appeared to be a low blow. Cox sank to his knees and claimed a foul. Young Fulton easily defeated Frankie Dixon in a 10-round bout at the Harmon Sporting Club. Dave Kurtz, of Newark, outpointed Paul Dixon, of Brooklyn, in a fast 10-round bout.

BALTIMORE, June 28.—Danny Ridge, of New York, and Young Riley, the local lightweight, went 15 rounds, with the honors even, here last night. The former has the best of all the local boxing clubs back good and strong.

BROADWAY SHOW TONIGHT

Jack Blackburn to Box K. O. Sansom in Final Set-to

Mugge Taylor, who has signed up Jack Blackburn for a series of bouts at the Broadway Club, will hold his postponed show at the 15th street and Washington avenue arena tonight, with the clever negro showing in the windup paired off with K. O. Sansom. Sansom is a tough fellow and he should give Blackburn a good workout.

Preliminary bouts follow: Frankie O'Neill vs. Al Fox, Eddie Hinkle, formerly Ray Hamill, vs. Kid West, Fred Goodman vs. Frankie Williams and Bobby Gallagher vs. Young Coster.

YANKEES AND INDIANS KEEP
UP IN RACE, DESPITE THE
INJURIES TO STAR PLAYERS

By GRANTLAND RICE

FACING the last week in June, the American League was able to present six ball clubs only five games apart. Which is to say that Chicago, in sixth place at the week's beginning, was only five games back of Cleveland, leading the merry whirl.

We may be straggling off the trail, but as we recall the various episodes of other years, this stands as a record for compactness after two and a half months' play.

The Two Sections

The American League race may be divided into two sections—not the East against the West, but the Downs against the Ups.

In one section we have the three pace-makers of last year—the three clubs picked to romp away from the present field—Detroit, Boston and Chicago. These are the Ups. In the other we have three clubs where only one was given a chance to finish in the first division. These are Cleveland, New York and Washington. Yet the latter three, for the first two months have provided most of the sensations. And the remarkable feature is that Cleveland and New York were able to start this present week running 1-2, when they had suffered more than any other contenders.

New York has had two pitchers, two infielders and a star outfielder out lengthy spells. So no one can charge their positions to any fancy luck.

Holding Up

In the battle of the Ups against the Downs—the odds are all with Detroit, Boston and Chicago. The test months through the heat of July

and August are yet to come. These are the months that saw Boston and Detroit jump to the front last summer and pull away from the field.

Two from this trio are quite likely to fight it out again, with Detroit favored. Both the Red Sox and the White Sox have the material to be close up, but all three will face far tougher opposition than they ever looked for.

The Case of the Yankees

Suppose we take up the case of Smiling Bill Donovan's sprightly Yankees. At the start of the season it generally was agreed that if the Yankees were to make any giddy showing it would be through the fine work of three stars—Frank Baker, Lee Magee and Ray Caldwell.

Yet, starting this last June week, here were the details: Baker was batting .239. Caldwell had won 3 games and lost 7. By the laws of the rickety dope this slump in such vital places should have been enough to drive the Yanks down with the gasping Mackmen, who very seldom come up for air. But in spite of this slump, they began the week only one game from the top.

Now Baker and Magee are not .239 and .225 hitters. And Caldwell is no 3 out of 10 pitcher. When the complete season's averages are all in Baker is fairly sure to be at .300 or over, with Magee up around .280. And Caldwell will have a good many more victories than three packed away in his system. So with this trio up at normal heights the Yankees will be even more dangerous than they have been. By several degrees.

Donovan's Chance

Has Donovan a chance to beat out Detroit, Boston and Chicago? A fair chance

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ATHLETES TRAIN
AT WOODSIDE FOR
BIG TRACK MEET

Evening Ledger Athletic Program Awakens Interest Among Schoolboys

MANY ACCEPT INVITATION

The general invitation of the Woodside Park management for schoolboys to train on the quarter-mile cinder track at Woodside Park in preparation for the Brooklyn-Liberty track and field meet, which is to be held at that amusement park every Saturday, has already been productive of beneficial results. The almost good athletic tracks in this city have long been recognized as one of the drawbacks to the development of athletics, and has prevented boys from keeping up their outdoor physical exercises during the summer. The Woodside Park management was not slow to recognize this disadvantage to the juveniles and at once fixed up the track and dressing rooms so that boys will be welcome at any hour of the day to train on the track.

Considerable interest has been awakened in these games, and although the boys have been somewhat slow to realize the extent of the benefits to be derived from them, they now fully understand just what has been done for them along these lines and a generous response to the liberal invitation is expected.

The one big advantage to the boys in these meets and also in their training is the fact that the Woodside Park track is easy of access from any part of the city. Nearly all the important street railway lines run to either 44th and Parkside avenue or 134th and Dauphin streets, from which points the two branches of the Fairmount Park Transportation Company start. The cars stop at the gate at Woodside, and as there is no admission fee charged to the park, there is no excuse for the boys not turning out in force for these games, especially when they have been specially arranged for through the efforts of the Evening Ledger and Woodside Park.

Another important factor which bears direct and close relation to the games is the fact that the boys are not worried by school examinations. All this is over for two months, and the lads, except those who are fortunate to get away to the country or seashore, will find the time drag heavily on their hands unless they enjoy the opportunities offered them at Woodside to take up some other form of recreation.

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