

Pride Giving Pinson Comeback Push

By RUSSELL SCHNEIDER

CLEVELAND, O. — The scene is any trip with the Indians. Tony Horton and Vada Pinson are sitting together on the airplane. They are listening to Pinson's tape-phonograph. Nancy Wilson is singing. But Horton and Pinson are talking, too. They are talking about hitting.

And when the plane lands and the players troop aboard a bus, Horton and Pinson sit together again. Pinson inserts another tape cartridge, another one of Nancy Wilson, and they talk some more. About hitting, mostly. Pinson talks and Horton listens, except to ask questions.

"Tony paid me quite a compliment once, when the season first started and I was still new on this team," said Pinson, the "old pro" who is making quite a comeback in the American League. An 11-year veteran of the National League, Pinson came to Cleveland last winter in an even-up trade for Jose Cardenal. He has since become one of the few things the Indians have had to smile about in 1970.

That's because Pinson has become one of the most feared hitters in the A. L., just as he was in the N. L.—at least before last year.

But we're getting ahead of the story.

"I guess it was the second or third week of the season," continued Pinson who, at this writing, owned the sixth-ranked average (.331) in the American League. "Tony sat down next to me and said, 'Vada, I've been watching you and you know what I think?'"

Adjusting at the Plate

"I think you're not that smart. I don't think anybody can be that smart. I'm asking you to tell me how you do it. How you did it out here tonight?" Pinson quoted Horton.

It had happened that the opposing pitcher was working on Pinson in a certain way and Vada, fooled on one pitch, came back on the next and fooled the pitcher. It helped the Indians win that game, which is what Horton meant about Pinson not being that smart.

"We talked for a long time and I told Tony how I think, or how I try to think, when I'm at the plate," said Pinson.

"I told him how I feel when I'm batting . . . how I try to adjust . . . how I concentrate. And how I try to relax."

"That's when Tony paid me the compliment. He said to me, 'You know Vada, I like being on the road, because when we're on the road, we're usually in the third base dugout.'"

"And when we're in the third base dugout, I can watch your hands, and how you change them, and the look on your face, and what you're doing on certain pitches. When we're at home, all I can see is your rear end," continued Pinson as he talked about Horton's compliment. Obviously, Vada was pleased.

"So now, we sit together most of the time. Of course, one of the reasons is that Tony likes my phonograph and especially Nancy Wilson's singing. We both drool over her voice."

Listening and Talking

"But he won't let me wear the earphones, and he won't wear them, either. Tony wants to listen to the music, but he wants to talk about hitting, too," related the 31-year-old outfielder.

Again, it was obvious Pinson enjoys Horton's respect.

And it was equally obvious Vada enjoys talking about hitting.

"That's my game," he acknowledged. "I love to hit. I've watched a lot of great hitters, and I've talked to a lot of them. And I enjoy talking to our younger players about hitting."



"I WANTED to prove something to myself, the fans and Alvin Dark."



A Discarded Mask, A Cloud of Dust and Vada Pinson Steals Home.

Which is another reason why Pinson has been so good for the Indians this season.

"I guess, mainly, it's a matter of pride," the veteran said about his new career in Cleveland. "I came over here with a lot of incentives."

"I wanted to prove some things to myself. I wanted to prove some things to the fans. And I sure wanted to prove some things to Alvin Dark."

All-Star in Cincy

Pinson, after 10 years as a star in Cincinnati, during which he was a member of the All-Star teams of 1959 and 1960, and was the runner-up for the N. L. batting championship with a .343 average in 1961, was traded to the Cardinals prior to the 1969 season.

Early last summer, Pinson suffered a broken bone in his right leg, even though it wasn't diagnosed as such for a few days. He played four games with the injury.

"It (the injury) happened just when I was starting to get going," he recalled. "When I couldn't play, I died. It was terrible. I couldn't sit still."

And so, to further complicate his problem, Pinson rushed his return.

"Yeah, I guess I should have waited a while longer until I was closer to being 100 percent. But I didn't. Then, it became a mental thing. I even limped a little unconsciously after my leg was okay."

"I can still hear Bob Gibson yelling at me, 'Hey, stop that limping,' and I didn't even realize I was. That's how bad it got for me."

Pinson's average reflected how bad it got.

He hit just .255, the lowest of his Organized Baseball career, which began in 1956, and his 126 hits were the fewest in any season since the first one.

Little wonder then that Vada, a proud man, found his pride hurting when he was swapped to the Indians.

"Like I said," said Pinson, "I want to show a lot of people over here (in Cleveland) that they didn't get some rinky-dink when they got me."

"Sure, I know Alvin (Dark) is rebuilding a young team and I'm not so young anymore," admitted Vada, who further admitted he almost retired—and joined Curt Flood—rather than report to the Tribe.

Eager to Help Kids

"But after I got my thinking straightened out, I decided I'm going to blend in with this young team. I want to help these kids. And I want to play for awhile yet."

"I still feel young and I like being part of this team!"

Of his contemplated—and obviously premature—retirement, Pinson said, "I was very hurt (by the Cardinals), mainly because I wanted another chance to prove I was better than I showed them. But I thought I wanted that chance with St. Louis."

"I'll tell you, I was so hurt, if Curt Flood had been going through then what he is now (the court test of the reserve clause), I would have been right alongside him, because right then (last October 11) and there I felt like nothing more than a piece of property, too."

"As it is, I'm with Curt now, in spirit, anyway. He's a

great man and baseball is losing a great player. It is such a shame."

Vada's decision to hang in there with the Indians resulted from some long soul-searching, and some long discussions with people who are very important to him.

One was his wife. "She knows how proud I am, better than anyone else," said Pinson.

Another was George Powles, Vada's coach at McClymonds High School in Oakland. "He knows about my pride, too," said the outfielder, who was a first baseman until his second year as a pro.

"It was at Visalia (California) in 1957," he recalled. "They (Visalia) owned their own first baseman, a fellow named Jerry Stack, who was a very good hitter and much bigger than I was (5-8, 149 pounds) then."

"I've never been anything but an outfielder since that time—and I've never been sorry, either."

Naturally, one of the first questions everybody wants answered when they talk to Pinson concerns the difference between the National and American leagues.

And, of course, they want to know if the National League really is stronger.

"Well," Vada started his reply, "first, I can't say that one league is better than the other. Those things, (the domination of one league) go in cycles."

Strike Zone Is Same

"As for the differences, I was told the strike zone would not be the same over here, and that I'd see more breaking pitches than I did over there."

"But I don't think there is much of a difference in the strike zone, although there seem to be more breaking-ball pitchers in the American League."

"What it's doing is making me a better breaking-ball hitter," he said, which best illustrates Pinson's positive approach to all things.

And what about the future—those four or five more years Pinson thinks he can play for the Indians?

"I don't mind telling you I have a few goals," said the man who is one of just a handful of active players who have more than 2,000 lifetime hits.

At this writing, Pinson's total is 2,052.

"To begin with," Vada began, "let me say I want to stay in this game as long as I can as a player, and then as something else, either in uniform or working in the front office."

"I'd like to get 3,000 hits before I quit, and maybe I can. My pace has slowed down," he said with a laugh, "but I haven't given up."

"Another thing I'd like very much to achieve is a .300 lifetime batting average. I guess it's about .296 now. (It is.)"

"But the most important thing is that, when I get all through, people can look at my record and say, 'Vada Pinson . . . he did it.'"

Which he has already even though there are, hopefully, four or five years left.

Because he has done it all is why Tony Horton, and others among the Indians, seek Vada's counsel.

And because they do, Pinson could wind up as the Tribe's most valuable player. His contributions are so much more than merely mechanical.

Speed-Boy Pinson Nixed Reds' Pleas to Lay Down Bunts

**'I'm Not Leg-Hitter,' Declares Talented Cincy Flyhawk—
Rival Infielders Took Advantage of Vada by Playing Deep**

By EARL LAWSON

CINCINNATI, O.

A few years ago, after Vada Pinson's first full season in the majors, baseball men around the National League were booming him as the game's "next super star."

As a 20-year-old youngster with only two and one-half seasons of minor league ball behind him, he had virtually ripped the National League apart.

During that 1959 season, Pinson pounded out 205 hits to finish with a .316 batting mark. Among his hits were 47 doubles, a club record since shattered by teammate Frankie Robinson, and 20 home runs.

Pinson, it was pointed out, is a baseball rarity. He possesses those two ingredients so necessary for greatness—speed and power.

"For Vada," Wally Moses, then a Red coach, had remarked, "the sky is the limit." Then, the cautious Moses, now a Yankee coach, had added, "But, he's got to get up there himself. You can't put him there."

In 1960, his second year with the Reds, Pinson's average dipped to .287. Most players would be proud of such an average, especially since Pinson's hits during that 1960 season included 37 doubles and 20 home runs.

But, Pinson is a young man with extraordinary talents.

As Frankie Robinson, Pinson's closest friend, says, "Vada should never hit under .300."

Pinson had a logical explanation for that .287 batting mark.

"I tried to pull every pitch," he had explained, "instead of trying to hit the ball where it was pitched."

Common Error by Youngsters

It was a perfectly natural mistake. More than one talented youngster has succumbed to the lure of the home run and the glamor associated with it.

The following season, 1961, Pinson bounced back with a .343 batting mark as the Reds won their first pennant in 21 years.

Asked to name the player most likely to succeed him as the National League's No. 1 hitter during the coming decade, Stan Musial, the St. Louis Cardinal great, readily answered, "Pinson."

Pre-season polls last spring tabbed Pinson as one of the leading candidates to supplant the Pittsburgh Pirates' Roberto Clemente as the National League batting king.

And, during the first month of the 1962 season it looked as if Pinson were bent upon winning the batting title—and the triple crown, too.

Around mid-May, the young Red center fielder was batting in the .340s, had 13 homers and some 40 RBIs.

"I guess Vada's answering the question that was asked him all winter," his roomie Robinson had chortled happily.

During the 1961 World's Series, Pinson had made only two hits in 22 trips to the plate.

Slumped at Platter

During the long winter layoff, writers had asked him the one question—do you think you can bounce back after your poor showing in the Series?

Late in May, Pinson went into a tailspin. It wasn't long until his average dipped below the .300 mark. He wound up the season with a disappointing .292 average.

It's true that Pinson established new career highs with 100 RBIs and 23 home runs.

"But," asks Red Owner Bill DeWitt, "how much help did we get from him late in the season?"

In fairness to Pinson, it must be pointed out that he was troubled by a pulled leg muscle during the last couple of months of the season. And, it could be that the injury was more serious than most people believed.

Still, his nosedive at the plate began before he sustained the leg injury.

The No. 1 complaint against Pinson is that he stubbornly refuses to capitalize on his tremendous speed.

Even Robinson agrees that Vada has been around the league long enough to learn the pitchers and their mannerisms.

Yet, Pinson's stolen base total has

Goes Own Way



Vada Pinson

dwindled. He stole 32 bases in 1960, his second year with the Reds. Last year he stole 25. It was 23 in 1961.

If memory serves, Pinson beat out only one bunt during the 1962 season. In most cases, the ball went foul the few times Pinson did attempt to bunt for base-hits.

"If the guy perfected the bunt and used it, he could hit .400," says Red Coach Pete Whisenant. And Whisenant, just released by the club, isn't the only one who holds this belief.

Talk to Pinson about bunting and he says, "I'm not a leg-hitter."

Neither, we might add, is Mickey Mantle. But, the Yankee slugger isn't too proud to bunt.

Blazer Hiked Average

Pinson disdains the bunt, even though his teammate, Don Blasingame, gave him a practical demonstration of just how much an occasional bunt can mean to a batting average.

In 1961, Blasingame batted .212 for the Reds. This year almost a third of the little Red second baseman's hits came either on bunts or infield hits. He upped his batting mark to a respectable .281.

By snubbing the bunt, Pinson hasn't kept the opposition defenses honest. Second baseman should never play him back near the outfield grass. But they do.

Unfortunately, as Pinson's average suffered, so did his fielding.

It could be that Pinson is experiencing growing pains, and that in 1963 he'll realize his full potential.

If this is the case, the Reds, in Pinson and Robinson, will boast baseball's top one-two punch.

There's no doubt that Pinson has the natural ability to become one of the game's super stars.

However, there seems to be a question as to whether he has the desire to achieve such a lofty standing.

Frick Bars Freese from Winter Ball

CINCINNATI, O.—The Reds' hopes for Gene Freese to test his ankle in the Florida Instructional League were quashed, November 1, when Commissioner Ford Frick denied the club request for permission to send the third baseman to the winter circuit.

Frick ruled against the Reds on the grounds that Freese, by playing in the winter loop, would deprive a youngster of a chance to gain experience.

Freese, who hit 26 homers and drove in 87 runs during the Reds' pennant-winning campaign of 1961, suffered a broken ankle in spring training and was sidelined for all but a few games of the '62 campaign.

Ex-Ace Turley First Victim of Yank Overhaul on Slab

Bob Shaken Up by Deal With Angels Despite Earlier Rumor

By TIL FERDENZI

NEW YORK, N. Y.

The conditional deal which sent Bob Turley to the Los Angeles Angels is what Roy Hamey calls "the first step in renovating our pitching staff for 1963."

Turley, who won six games and lost eight for the Yankees in the last two years, was conditionally dealt to the Angels, October 29. He was plagued with a sore elbow in 1961. Last fall, the veteran pitcher was operated on for the removal of bone chips in his ailing arm. He pitched a mere 69 innings this past season.

Series Hero Terry Cheered by 5,000 Home-Town Fans

LARNED, Kan. — An estimated 5,000 residents turned out to greet New York Yankee Pitcher Ralph Terry at a homecoming parade, October 27.

"It has been a long season and it is great to get home where you can relax," Terry told newsmen and friends following the parade. "I plan to do a little hunting and play some golf and visit friends in and around Larned."

Terry, who pitched and won the seventh game of the World's Series against the San Francisco Giants, said he hopes to concentrate on his golf game during the off season.

"I want to learn the game of golf thoroughly," he said. "I would like to end up a golf pro."

He presently shoots in the high 70s.

Terry is part-owner of a Great Bend (Kan.) bowling establishment and will spend part of his time looking after his interests there.

He was given the key to the city by Larned Mayor R. A. King and several other city honors came his way. BILL HODGE.

Gotham Scribes Pick Americana for 1963 Frolic

By TIL FERDENZI

NEW YORK, N. Y.

The fortieth annual dinner and show of the New York Chapter, Baseball Writers' Association of America, will be held in New York's spanking new Americana Hotel on Sunday, January 27, it was announced by the New York chapter after its annual meeting at Toots Shor's on October 30.

The meeting resulted in a new slate of officers. Til Ferdenzi of the New York Journal-American and Yankee correspondent of THE SPORTING NEWS was elected chapter chairman succeeding Dick Young of the Daily News.

Ken Smith of the Daily Mirror was voted vice-chairman, with Len Koppett, New York Post, being picked as secretary-treasurer.

Those selected for the executive committee included Young, Dan Daniel, World-Telegram and Sun; Harold Rosenthal, Herald Tribune, and Barney Kremenko, Journal-American.

Once again, Len Koppett and Eddie Dowling will direct the annual show, with Koppett writing the book. This year's production, to be held in the lavish Imperial Ballroom of the Americana, shapes up as one of the best in the 40-year history of the show.

It's merely a case of ham improving with age.

"If Turley's arm comes around for the Angels and they still have him on opening day of 1963, then we'll get a mutually satisfactory player in return," the Yankee general manager said.

But if the news of Turley's departure failed to shake the baseball world, it certainly shook Turley. Right after the World's Series, the big righthander told this reporter he was looking forward to pitching in Puerto Rico this fall.

"I asked for this chance to pitch winter ball because I was sure the extra work I would get down there would sharpen my control and get me to spring training enough advanced to make a comeback," the pitcher said. "I do not feel I am through as a big league pitcher. My arm is not sore. There is nothing wrong with it that some extra work won't cure."

"I Need Work," Bob Says

It has been Turley's contention that he needs work, "and lots of it," to keep himself in shape.

"When I don't get the work, I tend to get wild," he said. "I've always been that kind of a pitcher."

Turley, who is 32, never has had any trouble keeping himself in shape. He is a malted milk ball player, and the nearest he comes to succumbing to old John Barleycorn is a few sips of an Orange Blossom. But only on special occasions, and those occasions are few and far between. Ginger ale on the rocks is more to Bob's liking.

Hamey said the decision to deal Turley had been in the works for the last few weeks.

"We had to make a decision on him, and we did," the general manager said. "We wish Bob the best."

The identity of the player the Yankees will get in return depends, of course, on how Turley shapes up in spring training with the Angels.

Deal on Conditional Basis

"It's a conditional deal all the way," Hamey said. "To be perfectly honest, no player has been mentioned. But if Turley makes out all right with the Angels, you can be sure we'll ask for something in return."

The general manager indicated what the Yankees got in return would not necessarily be a pitcher.

"It could be anybody," Hamey said. "Just anybody that's suitable."

"Like all Yankee deals the last couple of years, Hamey wanted it made clear that the decision to get rid of Turley was a joint one.

"Ralph Houk and I agree on all these things," the G. M. said.

As a Yankee, Turley's services were

Belinsky Doubts He'll Go to Yanks in Turley Trade

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — Who goes to the Yankees if the Angels decide to keep Pitcher Bob Turley, obtained from the Bombers on a conditional basis?

"I don't think it will be me," said Bo Belinsky, the bright lights hurler of the Angel staff. "I'd think they made a better deal."

Belinsky is almost sure he'll be traded before the start of the 1963 season.

But General Manager Fred Hamey of the Angels denies Belinsky will go to the Yankees for Turley.

An Angel spokesman said the team wasn't going to dispose of Belinsky "just for the sake of giving him away."

Belinsky, a 25-year-old southpaw, broke into the Big Time with a bang last season when he pitched a no-hitter. But he became involved in several escapades and wound up in the doghouse.

New Start in '63



Bob Turley

Turley Key Figure in '54 Deal Involving 17 Players

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The deal which sent Bob Turley from the Yankees to the Angels recalled a historic day in the history of the world's champions. It occurred on November 18, 1954, when Turley figured in the biggest swap in Yankee history, a 17-player deal with the Baltimore Orioles.

The main characters in that big piece of business were Gene Woodling, Gus Triandos, Hal Smith, Harry Byrd and Willy Miranda. They went from New York to Baltimore. The Orioles, in return, gave up Turley, Don Larsen, Billy Hunter and Dick Kryhoski, among others.

considerable. The high point of his career in the Bronx came just four years ago. In 1958, he won 21 and lost seven and was 2-1 in the World's Series triumph over the Milwaukee Braves. His earned-run average was 2.98.

All of which succeeded in winning him the Cy Young Award as the best pitcher in the major leagues. It was the first time in history an American Leaguer had won the award. The strapping righthander also was the winner of the Hickok Belt as the pro athlete of the year.

Prizes "Bible" Award

But the prize he cherished most that year was THE SPORTING NEWS Major League Player of the Year award.

As a Yankee, Turley won 82 and dropped 52. He thrived primarily on a buzzing fast ball.

Turley's career started to wane in 1959 when he won eight and lost 11. In comparison to his 2.98 figure of the previous year, Turley's ERA ballooned to 4.32. Then, in 1960, the righthander posted a 9-3 record. In 1961, he began to experience pains in his right elbow.

"I frankly was worried about those pains," he said. "I broke into pro ball in 1943, and in all that time I had never had a sore arm."

Turley's "sore arm" was a bad case of bone chips which held him to a 3-5 record. Last year, following his operation, the veteran won three and lost three. His 1961-62 record showed only one complete game.

Pinson Will Go to Bat in Court-- Accused by Roughed-Up Writer

By PAT HARMON

CINCINNATI, O.

Pinson Drew 'Super-Star' Forecasts as a 19-Year-Old

CINCINNATI, O.—When Birdie Tebbetts first saw Vada Pinson, he excitedly told writers: "This fellow can be another Mickey Mantle."

That was in the spring of 1958. Tebbetts then was manager of the Reds.

Pinson was a 19-year-old phenom who had reported to camp after burning up the then Class C California League.

"For Pinson, the sky is the limit, but he has to get there himself," said Wally Moses, then the Reds' batting coach, after Pinson batted .316 in 1959, his first full season in the majors.

A couple of years ago, Cardinal great Stan Musial was asked which player figured to dominate the National League hitters during the coming decade.

"Vada Pinson," was Musial's unhesitating answer. "He's got both speed and power going for him."

In five Big-Time seasons, Pinson twice has fallen below .300, so he has fallen short of the super-star status predicted for him.

At 24, Pinson still has a chance to take his place among the game's greats. The potential seems to be there. Whether it's fully realized eventually, only time will tell.

Outfielder Vada Pinson of the Reds has a date in Cincinnati Police Court awaiting him after the season ends.

Pinson was hauled into court, September 5, on a charge of assault and battery filed by Earl Lawson, baseball writer for the Cincinnati Post and Times-Star.

At the request of Pinson's lawyers, Robert Stochler and Charles Mechem, Police Court Judge A. L. Luebbers granted a request for a continuance until October 9.

Lawson signed the warrant for Pinson's arrest after he was "manhandled" by the Red outfielder in the Reds' clubhouse following a September 4 night game with the Phillies at Crosley Field.

The incident was touched off by a story Lawson wrote for the September 3 Post and Times-Star in which he said Pinson could win the National League batting championship if he would bunt occasionally.

Pinson accosted Lawson on his way out of the clubhouse.

Lawson's Shirt Ripped

"He blocked my path and started waving the story I had written in front of me with profanity flowing," Lawson said. "I started to walk away and he grabbed my wrist."

"When I made a second attempt to walk away, Pinson grabbed me by my shirt, pulling me toward him. In doing so, he ripped my shirt. Then he pushed me against the wall. I made no retaliation. I then went into Red Manager Fred Hutchinson's office and called the police."

Pinson was visibly upset when police entered the clubhouse. They advised him to go with them to post bond so they wouldn't be required to get a warrant and take him forcibly.

Lawson signed the warrant at the police station and Pinson posted bond of \$300 after remaining in the lock-up at Central Station for 20 minutes.

Pinson did not deny Lawson's accusation.

Both Cincinnati papers have carried recent stories about Pinson's failure to bunt.

The Cincinnati Enquirer on September 2 carried a story by Sports Editor Lou Smith with a New York date-line. It was headlined: "Bunt would Aid Vada."

Traynor Suggests Bunting

Smith quoted from an interview with Pie Traynor, Pittsburgh Hall of Fame player: "Traynor said . . . 'Pinson could be more of a threat if he'd bunt a little more often.'"

Lawson's story said: "Vada Pinson's stubborn refusal to capitalize on his tremendous speed by dragging an occasional bunt probably will cost him the National League batting crown."

Lawson continued: "Tack just ten bunt singles onto Pinson's hit total for the same number of at-bats and he'd be batting 20 points higher than his current average."

Pinson, at the time the article was

Vada Runner-Up for N. L. Batting Title 2 Years Ago

CINCINNATI, O. — Vada Pinson's best season with the Reds was the '61 flag-winning year.

The speedy Red center fielder wound up the season with a .343 batting mark and was runner-up to the Pirates' Roberto Clemente for the National League batting title.

Pinson led the league in doubles in 1959 and 1960. His 47 doubles in 1959, his first full season in the majors, were a club record until broken last year by Frankie Robinson.

The Red center fielder reached a career high in RBIs last year with an even 100. His 23 homers last year also were a career high.



EARL LAWSON of the Cincinnati Post and Times-Star, went Round No. 2 with Vada Pinson on September 4. This is how Earl looked on June 30, 1962, with puffed eye and all, after taking one of Pinson's pokes in the clubhouse at Forbes Field.

written, was batting .322, seven points behind Cardinal Dick Groat, the league leader.

Lawson pointed out that for Pinson, ten bunt singles was a plausible assumption.

"Don Blasingame," he wrote, "beat out twice that many last year and he doesn't have Pinson's speed."

Lawson quoted Met Manager Casey Stengel: "Mickey Mantle used to love to bunt on pitchers with two strikes on him. And it really burned them up because he'd beat the bunts out."

Mickey Bunted Against Slider

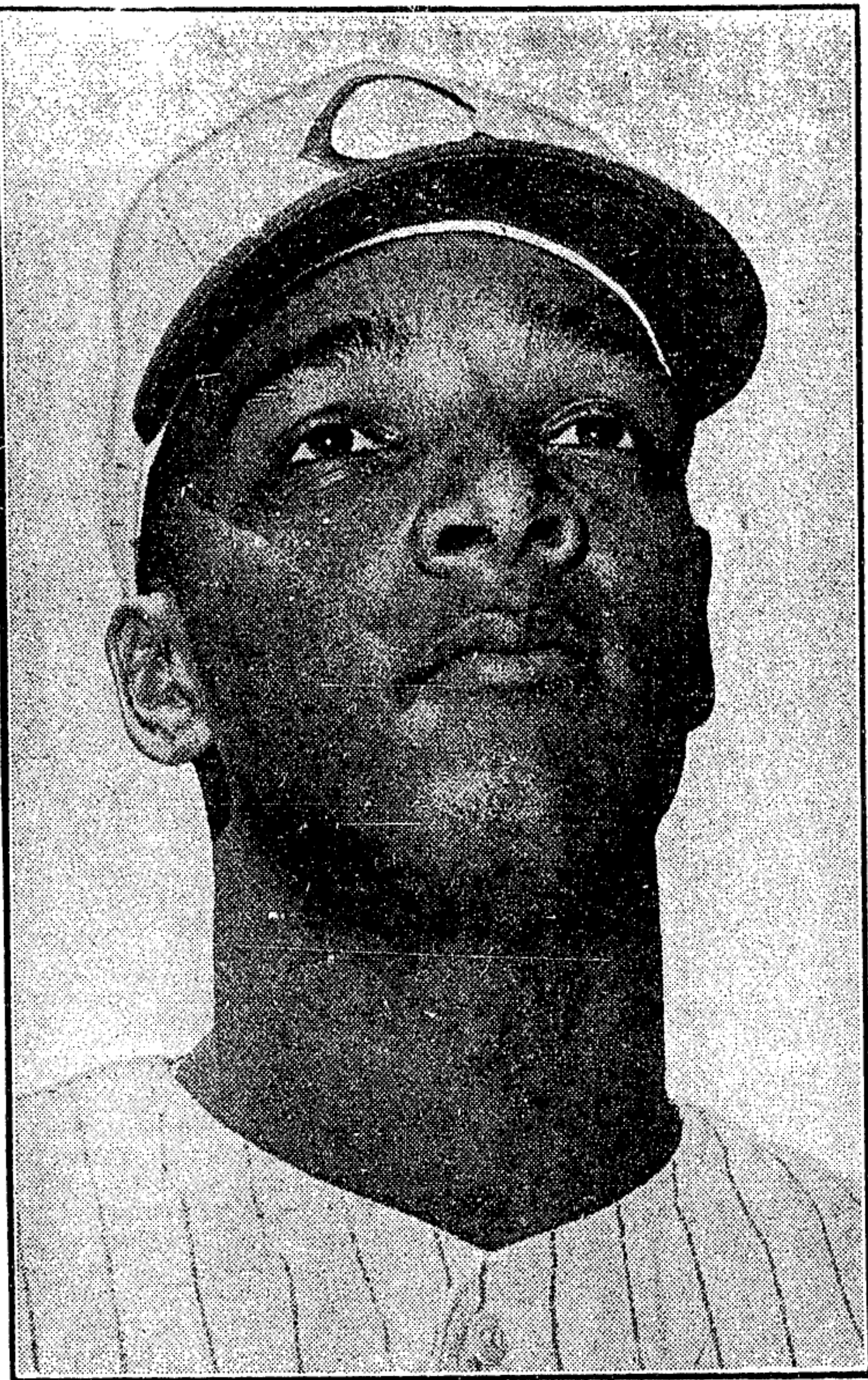
Stengel added, "With a man on third, Mantle would drag bunts three or four times a season. Sometimes Mantle would run into a pitcher whose slider gave him a lot of trouble. That's when he'd bunt."

Lawson's entanglement with Pinson was his second physical embroglio in two years.

During June of 1962, Pinson, taking issue with a story Lawson had written, punched the writer in the jaw in the Reds' clubhouse at Forbes Field in Pittsburgh.

"I learned then," said Lawson, "that at my age and in my condition, it's foolish to try to mix it up with well-conditioned athletes. I decided then and there that if any similar incident should take place in the future, I would put the matter in the hands of the police."

Red Hots: Jimmy O'Toole picked up his sixteenth and seventeenth wins with an August 26 triumph over the Dodgers and an August 31 win over the Pirates. He's still eyeing a 20 victory season. . . . Gordy Coleman's August 26 homer was the Reds' first of the season at Dodger stadium. . . . Jim Maloney made it 19 victories with a 9-5 triumph August 28 as the Reds made it two out of three with the Dodgers. . . . Joe Nuxhall doesn't figure to match his major league high of 17 victories, but he does figure to wind up with the best earned-run mark of his career—under 3.00. . . . Tommy Harper's inside the park homer at Forbes Field August 31 was one of his three hits. The Reds' 6-0 shutout victory was their eighteenth of the season. . . . The Reds were one out away from a 4-2 victory when Bill Virdon tagged Al Worthington for a grand-slam homer to give the Pirates a 6-4 victory, September 1, at Forbes Field. The defeat cost the Reds a sweep of the three-game series.



VADA PINSON . . . He'll Tell It To The Judge.

Bear Hugs, Clicking Cameras Mark Maloney's 20th Victory

By EARL LAWSON

CINCINNATI, O.

Jim Maloney had Pete Rose locked in a bear hug as the cameras clicked.

"Hey, you're still sweaty and I just took a shower," exclaimed Rose in mock protest.

"No profiles now," said the grinning Maloney as teammates kidded him about his nose.

"You never said that to the photographers after you won your nineteenth game," chided the Reds' Bob Purkey.

"Get Hutch in the picture," shouted a cameraman.

Fred Hutchinson, beaming like a proud father, encircled Maloney and Rose with his arms.

"Give Maloney a ball," shouted someone.

Now, the righthander was clutching a baseball as the cameras clicked.

Mates in Joking Mood

"Hey, Jim," shouted a teammate, "do you always pitch with an autographed ball?"

This was the scene in the Reds' clubhouse at the Polo Grounds, September 2, after Maloney shut out the Mets, 1-0 in the second game of a Labor Day double-header to notch his twentieth victory of the season.

"You know your buddy got his twentieth victory today, too," someone informed Maloney. He was referring to the Cubs' Dick Ellsworth.

"How about that!" exclaimed Maloney. "That's some story, huh?"

Ellsworth and Maloney were high school teammates at Fresno, Calif. In those days, Ellsworth was the star pitcher and Maloney the shortstop.

Maloney yielded only three hits,



Jim Maloney

fanned 13, walked six and hit one batter as he became the first righthander in the major leagues to win 20 games.

"He was a little erratic with his control," said Jim Turner, pitching coach, "but he had great stuff."

"He pitched his heart out. He was not going to let that team score a run."

"Pitching a shutout in the Polo Grounds is quite a feat, no matter who you're facing," remarked Hutch.

"A guy can hit a nubber on the end of his bat and the ball will land in those seats."

"No," said Turner, "I'm not surprised Maloney won 20 . . . not after the start he had."

"Going for 25?" someone asked Maloney.

"I'm not going to be greedy,"

he answered with a grin. "Remember, I was only supposed to win 15."

In spring training this year, Maloney had set 15 victories as his goal.

Maloney reached the coveted 20-victory mark in his second full season as a National League pitcher.

He was recalled from Nashville in the Southern Association in mid-season of 1960 after compiling a 14-5 record for the Vols. That year he wound up with a 2-6 record for the Reds.

Sore Wing in Pennant Year

Bothered periodically by arm trouble, he had a 6-7 record during Cincinnati's pennant-winning 1961 season.

In the spring of 1962, plagued by wildness, he was optioned to San Diego (Coast). In June he was recalled and went on to win nine and lose seven for the Reds, finishing strong.

The Mets made only one serious scoring threat against Maloney.

That was in the sixth inning when they loaded the bases with two out on a double and a pair of walks.

Then Maloney, reaching back for that little extra, struck out Duke Snider, a pinch-hitter for Third Baseman Ted Schreiber.

Rose Provides Victory Margin

Rose's home run, coming on Jay Hook's first pitch of the game, gave Maloney the one run he needed.

"It was a perfect pitch to hit," said the Red rookie, "and I gave it all I had. That was definitely my best shot."

Rose's drive landed deep in the upper deck of the right-center field seats at the Polo Grounds.