

# "Greatest Dodger Team" Out to Thwart Yank Bid

By JOE REICHLER

NEW YORK (AP)—Casey Stengel's proud New York Yankees and Charlie Dressen's powerful Brooklyn Dodgers fought today to reach previously-unsealed heights as the two championship clubs unfolded the 50th staging of baseball's greatest spectacle—the world series—before some 70,000 spec-

## Odds 6-5 In Favor Of Yanks

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The golden anniversary world series opened today in golden baseball weather with New York Yankees 6-5 favorites to defeat Brooklyn Dodgers.

Allie Reynolds was nominated to pitch for the American League champions against Carl Erskine. Both are righthanders. A capacity crowd of 60,000 jammed Yankee Stadium. The game started at 1:05 p.m. (EST) 10:05 a.m. (PST).

Only about 50 persons stood in line all night for the \$2 bleacher seats, as compared to 300 or so in former years. By 8:30 a.m. the crowd reached 2,000. All reserved seats, costing \$7, and box seats, costing \$10 have been sold.

The temperature was 65 degrees before 9 a.m., with indications that it would rise to nearly 80. The forecast was "mostly sunny."

Should the Yankees win the series it would be their fifth straight title. The Dodgers have the power-hitters in Jackie Robinson, Duke Snider, Roy Campanella, Carl Furillo and others, but the Yankees have Mickey Mantle, Gene Woodling, and Hank Bauer plus a stout defence and a strong pitching staff headed by Reynolds and Vic Raschi. A series victory for manager Casey Stengel of the Yankees would be his fifth straight, a baseball record.

As usual, New York hotels are full to capacity and tickets for the series are being sold on the black market at a great premium. There were reports of offers of \$25 up to \$75 for single seats in good locations.

The first two games will be played at Yankee Stadium and on Friday the series shifts to Ebbets Field in Brooklyn for the third and fourth games in the best-of-seven contest. The fifth game, if needed, will also be at Ebbets Field, whereupon the series moves back to Yankee Stadium for the sixth and seventh.

### World Series Notes

By ED CORRIGAN

NEW YORK (AP)—Before entering the first world series battle today, manager Casey Stengel of New York Yankees fell over himself being polite. His final pre-game statement: "We've got a nice team and they have a splendid team over there so it should be a splendid world series." Whew!

Both Stengel and manager Chuck Dressen of Brooklyn Dodgers have been warned by commissioner Ford Frick that bean balls will not be tolerated. He also instructed them not to blast the umpires after the games for what they consider adverse decisions.

Dressen is keeping a secret "book" on the Yank batters, but he is willing to discuss reserve infielder Willie Miranda who isn't much of a hitter. "His weakness is pitched balls," quipped Cholly.

Television officials say this series will be telecast by the largest network in history—119 stations in 113 cities—and no fewer than 750 radio stations will carry the broadcast.

The Brooks allotted six tickets to each Yankee player for the Ebbets Field games, but received only five for the Yankee Stadium games themselves.

Ralph Branca, Detroit Tiger pitcher, is around visiting his old mates. Although he's an American Leaguer, Ralph, who was dealt away from the Dodgers during the season, is rooting for them. Why shouldn't he? His father-in-law owns considerable stock in the club.

tators at Yankee Stadium. The Yankees, winners of five straight American League pennants, were after an unprecedented fifth successive world's championship. The Dodgers, hailed as "the greatest team in Brooklyn history," went into their seventh October classic with a record of never having won a series.

Probably because they feel they've got to ride with a winner, the odds-makers have established the Yankees a 13-to-10 favorite to polish off the Brooks for the fifth time in as many clashes. The Bronx Bombers whipped the Dodgers in series competition in 1941, 1947, 1949 and 1952. The series went the full seven games last year.

**SELL-OUT GUARANTEED**  
The game was due to start at 1:05 p.m. EST and close to 80-degree weather was promised. A sell-out was assured long ago, thousands frantically seeking tickets with little or no success. The series will be telecast by NBC and broadcast by MBS.

Allie (Chief) Reynolds, 35-year-old veteran mound campaigner, was Stengel's choice to get the Yankees off winging. He was to be opposed by Carl Erskine, slim 25-year-old righthander, who developed into the Dodgers' ace this season, winning 20 games.

Reynolds won only 13 games against seven losses, but the strong armed righthander is known as a great money pitcher. He already has won six world series games—four over the Dodgers—and needs one more to equal a world series record held by Charlie (Red) Ruffins, a Yankee stalwart of Joe McCarthy's pennant-winning machines.

Both teams, after engaging in final tune-ups Tuesday, went into battle at top strength. Carl Furillo, the National League's batting champion sidelined since Sept. 6 because of a broken finger on his left hand, was in right field for the Dodgers. Gene Woodling, also nursing an injured left hand, was at his old post in left field for the Yankees. Each has received permission to use sponge-rubber padding on his bat to soften the shock on their healing hands.

Also back in the line-up for Brooklyn was Gill Hodges, the slugging first-baseman, who cracked a couple of ribs two weeks ago while substituting for Furillo in right field.

Despite their inglorious series record, the Dodgers felt confident this would be their year. They have plenty of supporters, who point to their power-packed line-up that embraces five .300 hitters plus the circuit's leading batter and run-producer. It is a club that boomed out 208 homers and established 35 records, a majority of them with flailing bats.

The Yankees' line-up is not as awesome as that of the belting Brooks, but it's a well-knit machine that accentuates defence, co-ordination, spirit and the confidence of long-time champions. It is a team that makes few mistakes and bounces on any lapse made by the opposition. It doesn't get near as many runs as the Dodgers—but it doesn't give up as many, either.

The series shapes up like a championship heavyweight fight between a boxer and a slugger, with the Yankees in the role of the Fancy Dan. It figures to come to this: Can the Yankee pitchers check the Dodger hitters? The real key may be Reynolds, whose effective mound work both as a starter and relief artist was the biggest single factor in last year's Yankee triumph.



**CHARLIE TOOTH OF HAMILTON** has won the championship of the Canadian Blind Golfers' Association, held at Hamilton. Tooth, a pioneer of golf for the blind in Canada, finally won the championship after seven years' trying.

## St. Louis One-Ball-Club Town, Baltimoreans Plan Wing-Ding

ST. LOUIS (AP)—St. Louis baseball fans were busy today trying to get used to the idea of being a one-club major-league town.

The Browns, after three-quarters of a century here, were shifted to Baltimore Tuesday. Now only the National League Cardinals remain.

Fans generally were sorry to see the club go, but there didn't seem to be any alternative. Financial troubles have always plagued the Browns.

Business men concerned with the baseball operation figure the shift will cost the city about \$500,000 a year.

With an attendance of only 306,728 fans this season, the concession stand at Busch Stadium took in \$184,000 and \$70,000 of this went to vendors and other workers.

Railroads figure to lose about \$80,000 a year and the Chase Hotel, where all American League clubs stopped, about \$50,000.

Brownie office workers, exclusive of president Bill Vecek, received another \$75,000. These are the main items which will be missed.

In Baltimore the citizens, still finding it hard to believe the city's back in major league baseball after 51 years, prepared today to do some real celebrating.

A big civic reception was prepared for Mayor Thomas d'Alesandro, lawyer Clarence W. Miles and others of the Baltimore delegation who kept swinging at a new York American League meeting until they got the St. Louis Browns transferred here.

Thomas O'Donnell, the mayor's secretary, said it has been arranged to have a band and a large crowd of fans on hand when the victors arrive from New York this afternoon.

Any impromptu demonstrations could take it from there. Baltimoreans were at first stunned, then exhilarated Tuesday night at the news the Browns would be coming here after two previous attempts met with defeat.

Few had held hope that Tuesday's meeting of league officials, at which Miles made a last-ditch financial bid to get the franchise shifted, would meet with success.

Then the word came... flashed across news wires at the supper hour and when comparatively few people were on the streets.

"It's the greatest thing since the armistice," said a bartender. And that's the way a lot of Baltimoreans felt.

Ore David Chestnut said when asked his reaction: "I'm happy, man, happy! We're going to out-Milwaukee Milwaukee."

### LAST NIGHT'S FIGHTS

By The Associated Press  
**PHILADELPHIA**—Johnny Saxton, 151, New York, outpointed Joey Giardello, 155, Philadelphia, 10.

**KLAMATH FALLS, Ore.**—Dick Wolfe, 151½, Portland, Ore., outpointed Jose Aguilar, 158, Los Angeles, 10.

**LOS ANGELES**—Auburn Copeland, 129½, Flint, Mich., outpointed Ruben Smith, 127½, Los Angeles, 10.

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.**—Pat Lowry, 142, Detroit, knocked out Tommy Maddox, 140, Chicago, 5.

**HALIFAX**—Richard Kid Howard, 138, Halifax, outpointed Charley Smith, 134, Newark, N.J., 10.

**LONDON**—Joe Lucy, London, outpointed Tommy McGovern, London, 15, for British lightweight title.

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## SPORTS ROUND-UP

By GAYLE TALBOT

NEW YORK (AP)—They are playing another world series opener today, and we have been hearing and reading a great deal about the vital character of the contest—how the Yankees will be stricken virtually defenceless if they should lose it to the Brooklyn Dodgers, and of course, vice versa.

It got us to wondering why they even bother to play more than the one game if that's the case—barring the sordid financial aspects—and the next step was to grab for a record book. Before you give up on your beaten heroes tonight, join us in a look.

Their chances of coming back to win the championship are, so far as we can make out, exactly even if you can believe what has happened in the last 20 world series. If that's a fair enough sample, then it doesn't matter at all whether a club wins or loses the first game.

### SAME RATIO

Beginning with the 1933 play-off, in which Carl Hubbell starred in the New York Giants' 4-1 series victory over Washington, 10 teams which were destined to emerge as proud champions got their ears beaten off in the opener. The same number won the first one. If you wish to go back through the eight series before that the ratio remains precisely the same. It just doesn't make any difference. We have no idea why this should be so.

A year ago Joe Black came out of the Brooklyn bullpen to hammer the Yankees and Allie Reynolds, 4-2, and set off a great rejoicing in Flatbush. If a relief pitcher could start and beat the mighty world champions, then the rest of it should be a breeze. But when they got around to the seventh game it was Reynolds licking Black and the Yanks winning the series.

To refresh the memory further, the playoff before that saw the Giants win the opener

at Yankee Stadium behind little Dave Koslo. It also saw them take a 2-1 game lead, same as the Dodgers last year, only to get their lumps then from Reynolds, Ed Lopat and Vic Raschi in painful succession.

### NOT ALWAYS HARD WAY

Stengel's boys have not always done it the hard way. In winning the first of their four straight titles in 1949 they knocked off the Dodgers 1-0 as Reynolds bested Don Newcombe in a tense opening duel decided on Tommy Henrich's ninth-inning home run, and the next time they powdered the Phillies four straight.

Away back in the days before Stengel, in 1948, Cleveland won the American League flag and dropped the series starter to the Boston Braves, 1-0. The Injuns came back to take the series, 4-2, on superb relief pitching by Gene Bearden.

In 1947 it was the Yanks winning the first game and the seven-game series from Brooklyn. But in each of the three preceding world series the St. Louis Cardinals, Detroit Tigers and the Cards again overcame opening defeats and went on to take the winners' share.

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## Kesseling Turns Pro

TORONTO (AP)—Gerry Kesseling of Kitchener, one of Canada's best amateur golfers, has announced he is turning professional and will follow the United States tournament trail for the next two years.

Kesseling told Royal Canadian Golf Association officials that his decision was prompted by an offer of financial support and sponsorship by H. W. (Bud) Knight, Jr., Toronto sportsman and financier.

It is expected that in his tournament play, the 24-year-old free-swinging Kesseling will be attached to Toronto's new Downsview Golf Club of which Knight is part owner. As an amateur, he has been attached to two Kitchener clubs—Westmount and Rockway—where he got his start under the tutelage of professional Lloyd Tucker.

Terms of the sponsorship agreement call for Kesseling to spend two years on the U.S. tournament circuit, playing in both winter and summer events. He is the first Canadian golfer to plunge into such a long campaign against the best in the U.S.

### REMEMBER WHEN

Babe Ruth established an all-time major-league record of 80 home runs for the season, 26 years ago today. Altogether, from 1914 to the end of his playing days in 1935, the great Bambino hit 714 homers. With the New York Yankees he led the American League in home runs for four seasons before 1931, when he was tied by his great team-mate Lou Gehrig at 46.

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