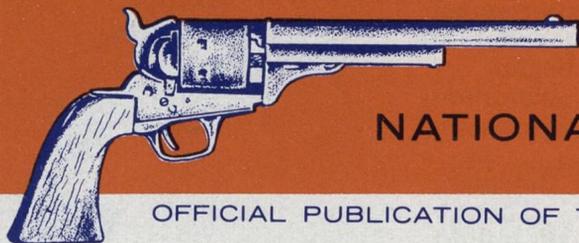


# THE COLTS .45



NATIONAL LEAGUE 1962

Vol. 3—No. 2

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE HOUSTON COLT .45s BASEBALL CLUB

December, 1962

## DOMED STADIUM ELECTION VOTE SATURDAY, DEC. 22

### STADIUM WILL BE WORLD'S GREATEST CONVENTION FACILITY

Harris County's domed stadium, which has attracted world-wide attention to Houston, passed another milestone Dec. 3 when the construction bid was awarded to Johnson, Drake and Piper, Inc., of Minneapolis.

Johnson, Drake & Piper, bidding in conjunction with H. A. Lott, Inc., Houston, had the low bid of \$19,440,000.

The Harris County Commissioner's Court in awarding the bid called a bond election at the same time for Saturday, Dec. 22 to raise the additional money needed to complete the fabulous structure.

#### Work Could Start In January

The bond issue will be for \$9,600,000. If the bond issue passes, work on the stadium will probably start in January. The bids call for the stadium to be completed in 440 working days, which would be sometime in mid-1964.

When completed the completely air-conditioned, weather controlled domed stadium would provide Houston with:

World's finest convention center.

World's largest exhibition hall.

World's most modern baseball and football stadium.

A structure which will attract tourists and sightseers from the four corners of the globe.

The domed stadium will be an economic boom to the Greater Houston business world. In their inaugural season in the National League in 1962, the Colt .45s attracted an estimated \$10,000,000 in new money into the hands of Houston merchants and businessmen. It is expected that more than five times this much will be attracted to Houston in the first year the stadium is in full operation.

#### Two National Political Conventions

Efforts already have been started to bring the two national political, Democratic and Republican, conventions to Houston in 1964. It is possible that they will be the first national events held in the domed stadium.

#### C. of C. Endorses Bond Issue

George T. Morse, Jr., 651 Shady Hollow, president of the Chamber of Commerce said: "Houston must complete the system. We must do exactly as we said we would do—build a domed stadium. Our prestige and our pride are involved in constructing this stadium, which is a necessity in our further development as a great city."

When the domed stadium is completed it will give Houston in one location and one

(Continued on Page 3)

### RUNNELS, A.L. BAT KING, JOINS COLT .45s

#### —SLATED FOR FIRST BASE

First base will be in the very capable hands of James Edward "Pete" Runnels when the .45s take the field April 9 in Houston against the National League champion San Francisco Giants.

Runnels, the American League batting champion two out of the past three years, is not only one of the best hitters in baseball, but is also one of baseball's best fielding first basemen. In 1961 he led the A.L. first sackers in fielding with a 993 average.

The native of Lufkin, Texas and a resident of Pasadena was elated over his trade that brought him "home" and sent Houston outfielder Roman Mejias to the Red Sox in a man for man swap.

#### Hit .326 Last Year

Last season he led the junior circuit with a .326 batting mark and had 10 home runs, 33 doubles, 5 triples and 60 runs batted in. His RBI's have never been too high due mainly to the fact he has been in the lead off spot the majority of the time.

Pete also led the A. L. hitters in 1960 with a .320 mark and was second to the great Ted Williams in 1958.

He has played in three All-Star games, and hit a pinch hit home run in last year's second star classic in Chicago's Wrigley Field.

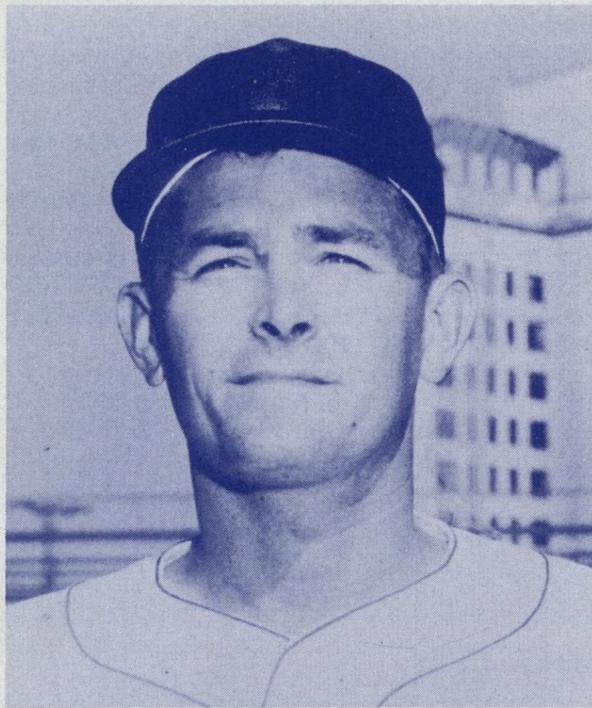
The addition of Runnels at first makes the .45s infield very formidable with Bob Aspromonte at third, Bob Lillis at shortstop, and George Williams at second.

#### NOTTEBART, LEMAY, GROB, BOLGER ACQUIRED IN DEALS

In two trades which saw seven players change uniforms the Colt .45s came up with three pitchers, and two outfielders in exchange for Norm Larker, and Joe Amalfitano.

Don Nottebart, 26 year old righthand pitcher with a 2-2 record at Milwaukee last year, Connie Grob, 30 year old right hand pitcher who won 14 and lost 10 with Louisville in 1962, and Jim Bolger, 30, who hit

(Continued on Page 3)



Pete Runnels

#### DRAFT ELLIS BURTON AND 4 YOUNGSTERS FOR \$61,000

Ellis Burton, 26 year old flyhawk, and four young major league prospects were the result of the annual major league draft held in Rochester, N. Y. on November 26. The five players cost the .45s \$61,000.

Burton, a switch hitter who hit .286 with 14 home runs in part of a season with Louisville last year, will be battling for the regular centerfield spot when spring training rolls around. The speedy former Houston Buff hit 22 home runs in 1961 with Toronto. He was drafted for \$25,000.

Conrad Cardinal, 20 year old righthand pitcher with a 14-7 record at Jamestown in his first pro year, was drafted for \$12,000 under the new first year draft rule.

The \$8,000 drafts, all first year players who can be optioned to the minors for three years, are John Haydel, 18 year old right hand pitcher, Tom Willwerth, 24 year old lefthand pitcher, and Jim Wynn, 20 year old infielder.



Nottebart

#### Records of 10 New Players on Page 3

# VOTE FOR DOMED STADIUM — DEC. 22

# PACIOREK AND BATEMEN GIVEN GOOD CHANCE TO MAKE BIG CLUB



John Paciorek

John Paciorek, a handsome, muscular 17 year old native of Detroit, Michigan, may be one of the few young players in baseball history to jump from high school to the big leagues.

The 6-2, 200 pound polish boy is currently playing centerfield for the Colt .22s in the Arizona Instructional League, and has impressed all who have seen him in action.

"This kid is a real pleasure to watch. He could become one of the truly great power hitters and all-around players in baseball," said manager Paul Richards.

An All-State baseball selection, Paciorek (pronounced Pa-shor-ick) was also an all-city selection in football and basketball his sophomore, junior and senior years at St. Ladislaus High School in Hamtramack, Michigan, a suburb of Detroit.

"He has looked great at more than one plate," says coach Luman Harris. "This guy has got to be one of the greatest eaters in baseball. In one sitting he is known to have eaten 56 ounces of steak, 2 baked potatoes, a plate full of vegetables, two salads, 4 glasses of milk and two pie ala modes. Needless to say, he can't get by on the Arizona meal allowance of \$3.50 per day. And there isn't an ounce of fat on him."

"Paciorek has been outlawed from the local eatery in Apache Junction that advertises "all you can eat for \$1.75".



## OK. CITY SHIFTS TO P. C. L.

Oklahoma City, the Colt .45s AAA farm club, will be playing in the Pacific Coast League next season instead of the American Association after a drastic realignment of AAA leagues at the annual baseball meetings.

The Coast League will have ten teams divided into two divisions. The southern division will be: Oklahoma City, Dallas-Ft. Worth, Denver, Salt Lake City and San Diego. The northern half will be: Tacoma, Seattle, Spokane, Portland and Honolulu.

The 89ers will be managed by Grady Hatton.

**For Season Ticket Information  
Call Kemper Kaiser  
RI-8-4500**

## .45s IN FIRST PLACE AS ARIZONA LEAGUE NEARS FINISH

The .45s, the Colt .45s more experienced entry in the Arizona League, moved into first place as the final week of play began.

A fierce three-way battle for the championship continued among the .45s, Pittsburgh Pirates and San Francisco Giants.

The continued hitting of John Bateman, Rusty Staub, Glenn Vaughan, Tommy Murray, Elijah Johnson, and the all around play of Ernie Fazio and Ron Davis were outstanding for the .45s. The .45s also received excellent pitching from Cliff Davis, Wally Wolf, Jesse Hickman, Tom Burgmeier, Alan Goldfield and Larry Huebner.

## SHORT SHOTS . . . . .

Farm director Tal Smith announced that three new full time scouts had been signed for 1963. The three are: Karl Kuehl, Los Angeles Area, Roman Miller, Pacific northwest area, and Connie Ryan, southeast area and special assignments.

The .45s farm department also released ten scouts. They are: Vin Maloney, Jim Greengrass, Dixie Howell, Johnny Sturm, Red Murff, Thurman Tucker, Johnny O'Brien, Leoncio Flores, Jules Kimmett, and Fido Murphy. These became necessary because of the first year player rule.

The reaction has been very favorable throughout baseball to the "Bill Klem Award", an award presented to an outstanding umpire at Houston's annual major league dinner. The award will be presented each year by the Houston baseball writers. The novel idea was first suggested by Gene Elston, Colt .45s sportscaster.



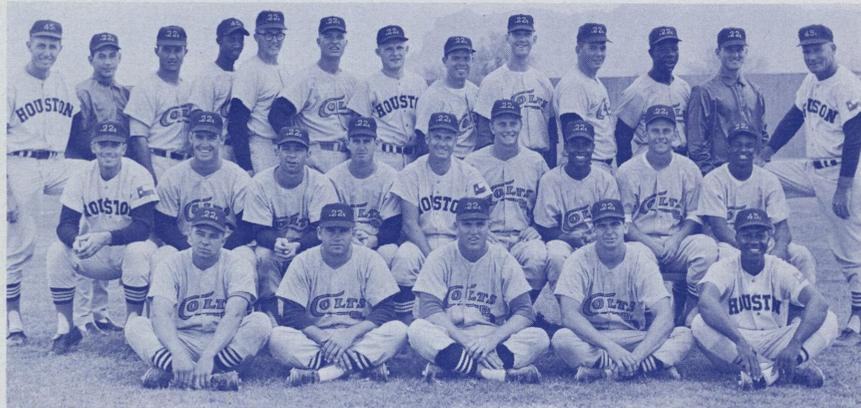
John Bateman

John Bateman has not yet completed one year in professional baseball and he is all ready being mentioned as "the new GABBY HARTNET". Just before the end of the Arizona instructional league Bateman received a hairline fracture of his right hand . . . this injury is not reported to be of a very serious nature and he should be ready for spring training February 15th. He was the number two hitter in the league with a .393 batting average.

The Colt .45s signed John Bateman last March to a class C contract with their Modesto farm club in the California League where he hit .280, had 21 home runs and 75 RBIs. Nine months later there is talk among .45s officials that this young man just might be the number one catcher on the major league Club next April.

Bateman, 6-4, 215 pounds, had written to the Colt .45 farm department requesting a chance to show his wares in a tryout camp in Texas City this past March. Since the age of \$100,000 is now with us the .45s farm department didn't see any reason not to gamble a bus ticket, a catchers mitt, and a sweat shirt on a young boy from Killeen, Texas who has a burning desire to be a major league catcher.

## HOUSTON COLT .22s



Colt .22s (Arizona Instructional League)—first row (l to r) John Hoffman, Jim Green, Gerald Gann, Dave Adlesh, George Williams. second row: Jack Caffery, Charles Harrison, John Papadenis, Jim Todhunter, manager Brandy Davis, John Paciorek, Brock Davis, Andy Torrence, Sonny Jackson. back row: coach Jim Walton, Jim Marrujo, Ed Mello, Larry Mason, Dan Coombs, Chris Zachary, Joe Clement, Larry Yellen, Bobby Black, Jerry Brown, Bob Skinner, and coach Lum Harris.

## RIGHT HAND HITTERS VS. LHP DEFIED BY MANY COLTS IN 1962

The old baseball axiom that righthanded batters hit better against southpaws and left-handed batters hit better against righthanders was defied by seven members of the Houston Colt .45s last season.

The outstanding examples of the opposite of the generally accepted hitting theory were three right-handed hitters, Third baseman Bob Aspromonte, Shortstop Bob Lillis, and Outfielder Roman Mejias.



Aspromonte

Aspromonte hit .277 against righthanders and only 2.34 against southpaws.

Lillis batted .256 against righthanders and only .235 against lefthanders.

Mejias, the .45s' leading batter, hit .288 against righthanders .277 against lefthanders.

Other .45s righthanded hitters who did better against righthanded pitchers than they did against lefthanders were Hal Smith .247 vs. .204 and J. C. Hartman .229 vs. .200.

The two lefthanded hitters who batted better against southpaws than they did against righthanders were Al Spangler, who hit .429 against lefties and .280 against righthanders, and Merritt Ranew, who batted .345 against southpaws and .217 against righthanders.

## DOMED STADIUM

(Continued from Page 1)

building, a structure comparable to the three public facilities in Los Angeles—Chavez Ravine, where only baseball is played, the Coliseum, where football, rodeos and large outdoor extravaganzas are held, the Sports Arena, where basketball, conventions and trade shows are held.

Houston's domed stadium, which will cost an overall \$22,000,000 for buildings, parking, excavation, drainage and other improvements is considered a bargain by outstanding engineers and architects in other parts of the country.

Richard Praeger, of the New York firm of Praeger-Kavanagh and Waterbury, who designed the Chavez Ravine Stadium and the new Flushing Meadows baseball-football stadium in New York, said Houston's stadium would be one of the wonders of the world.

**Outstanding Engineering Feat**  
"Your stadium will be relatively inexpensive for what you're getting," said Praeger. "You will have a facility that can be used for a convention hall, because of the fantastic dome. You have more parking space than any other stadium in the country, and an air-conditioning system which will be one of the outstanding things in engineering."

Pricewise, Houston's domed stadium will cost less than Washington's new stadium, the New York Flushing Meadows stadium and Chavez Ravine, all of which are for sports only.

## MEET 10 COLT NEWCOMERS

### PETE RUNNELS

Acquired from the Red Sox for Mejias. Throws right and bats left; infielder; born January 28, 1929, in Lufkin, Texas. Height 5-11½; Weight 170. 1962 Record G H TB HR RBI AVG. Red Sox 152 183 256 10 60 .326

### DON NOTTEBART

Purchased from the Milwaukee Braves. Throws right and bats right; pitcher; born January 23, 1936 at West Newton, Mass. Height 6-1; Weight 195. 1962 Record G GS CG IP W-L BB SO ERA Milwaukee 39 0 0 64 2-2 20 36 3.23

### DICK LEMAY

Acquired from Giants in the Amalfitano trade along with an outfielder. Throws left and bats left; pitcher; born August 28, 1938 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Height 6-3; Weight 190.

1962 Record G GS CG IP W-L BB SO ERA  
Giants 9 0 0 9 0-1 9 5 8.00  
Tacoma 31 19 6 145 10-4 39 74 3.29

### DICK WILLIAMS

Bought from Baltimore after the end of the 1962 season. Throws and bats right handed; utility man. Born May 7, 1929 at St. Louis, Mo. Height 6-0, weight 190.

1962 Record G H TB HR RBI AVG.  
Baltimore 82 44 56 1 18 .247

### CONNIE GROB

Acquired from Milwaukee Braves with Bolger for Larker. Throws right and bats left; pitcher; born November 8, 1932 in Cross Plains, Wis. Height 6-0; Weight 190.

1962 Record G GS CG W-L IP BB SO ERA  
Louisville 36 27 18 14-10 230 43 84 2.86

### JIM BOLGER

Acquired from the Milwaukee Braves with Grob for Larker. Throws right and bats right; outfielder; born February 23, 1932 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Height 6-1; Weight 182.

1962 Record G H TB HR RBI AVG.  
Louisville 140 162 239 9 74 .319

### Regular \$25,000 Draft ELLIS BURTON

Outfielder from Toronto (International). Born August 12, 1936, at Los Angeles, Calif. Height— 5-10½; Weight 150. Bats right and left; throws right.

1962 Record G AB H HR RBI AVG.  
Louisville 110 392 112 15 51 .286  
Toronto 19 67 17 4 9 .254

### \$12,000 First-Year Draft CONRAD SETH CARDINAL

Pitcher of Hawaii (Pacific Coast). Bats and throws right. Age 20.

1962 Record G IP W L SO ERA.  
Jamestown 31 183 14 7 189 3.74

## CHRISTMAS GIFT CARD SPECIAL OFFERED

The Colt .45 ticket office offers a special Christmas Gift Card for all Colt .45 fans. The gift cards may be exchanged at any time for a ticket to any Colt .45 game in 1963. The gift card will be delivered in a gift folder with a space for a personal inscription. The gift cards can be exchanged for either box seats @ \$3.50 each or reserved seats @ \$2.50 each. To obtain the Christmas Gift Cards, address requests to Ticket Department, Houston Colt .45s, Box 1691, Houston 1, Texas.

## SMITH AND HOFHEINZ BUY UP STOCK

R. E. (Bob) Smith, chairman of the board, and Judge Roy Hofheinz, chairman of the executive committee, purchased additional stock in the Houston Sports Association previously owned by K. S. (Bud) Adams, Craig F. Cullinan, Jr., J. S. Cullinan, II, Aaron J. Farfel, Harding Frankel, Jack S. Josey and Leonard Rauch.

This leaves only five stockholders in the H. S. A.—Smith, Hofheinz, Earl Allen, John A. Beck, and George Kirksey.

## NOTTEBART

(Continued from Page 1)

.319 with Louisville last season, were acquired from the Braves for first baseman Larker and a bit of cash.

Nottebart could become one of the .45s starting pitchers next season after two seasons as a relief hurler for the Braves. Pitching coach Cot Deal and g. m. Paul Richards plan to spend a lot of time with young Nottebart in an attempt to make him a winning major league pitcher. As a starting pitcher in the minors, he won 18 games in four different seasons.

Grob and Bolger both bring outstanding minor league records with them, and could prove to be assets to the 1963 Colts.

Lefthand pitcher Dick Lemay, 24, who had a 10-4 record at Tacoma last season and an outfielder to be named later, were obtained from the Giants for second sacker Joe Amalfitano.



## \$8,000 First-Year Draft JAMES SHERMAN WYNN

Infielder of San Diego (Pacific Coast). Bats and throws right. Age 20.

1962 Record G AB H HR RBI AVG.  
Tampa 120 400 116 14 81 .290

## JOHN HAROLD HAYDEL

Pitcher of Louisville (American Association). Bats and throws righthanded.

1962 Record G IP W L SO ERA  
Dublin 17 74 7 4 80 3.53

## THOMAS WILLWERTH

Pitcher of Salt Lake City (Pacific Coast). Bats and throws lefthanded. Age 24.

1962 Record G IP W L SO ERA.  
Dubuque 42 120 9 12 154 3.75

ROOKIE HUSTLE VETERAN KNOW-HOW HOUSTON LITH

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# N. L. CHAMP GIANTS AND DODGERS OPEN 1963 HOME SLATE

## — OPENER APRIL 9

The Colt .45s will open the 1963 season at home against the two toughest teams in the National League, the champion San Francisco Giants and the runner-up Los Angeles Dodgers.

The .45s play the Giants on April 9, 10, and 11, and the Dodgers on April 12, 13, and 14.

The opening game with the Giants will be a day game, followed the next day by the season's first night game.

The Dodgers series, April 12-14, will be the first big weekend of the season with night games Friday and Saturday and the Sunday afternoon game.

After periodic road trips, the top two National League clubs will be followed by St. Louis, Milwaukee, Cincinnati, Chicago, New York, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh in that order.

There are a total of 81 home games played on 78 dates. The three doubleheaders will all be twi-night doubleheaders Saturday, May 11 vs. the Chicago Cubs, Thursday, July 4 vs. the Cincinnati Reds and Saturday, July 6 vs. the Milwaukee Braves.

### Sunday Night Games

Houston was granted permission from the National League to play Sunday night baseball after June 1. There are 7 Sunday night games on the schedule beginning with Sunday night, June 9 against the San Francisco Giants. However, the last Sunday of the season vs. the New York Mets will be a day game.

There are 69 night games on tap and 12 day games.

### 10 Ladies Nights

Ladies Days have been scheduled for every Wednesday beginning Wednesday, April 24 vs. Milwaukee and ending with the Wednesday game on August 28 vs. the Braves.

There have also been five "Sixshooter Club Days" set aside for the youngsters. This year every grade school and junior high student in the Houston area will receive a membership card, free of charge, that will permit them to attend the special "Sixshooter Club Days" as guests of the Colt .45s.



## 1963 HOUSTON COLT .45s HOME SCHEDULE

Tuesday, April 9—San Francisco (D)  
 Wednesday, April 10—San Francisco (N)  
 Thursday, April 11—San Francisco (N)  
 Friday, April 12—Los Angeles (N)  
 Saturday, April 13—Los Angeles (N)  
 Sunday, April 14—Los Angeles (D)

Monday, April 22—St. Louis (N)  
 Tuesday, April 23—St. Louis (D)  
 Wednesday, April 24—Milwaukee (LN)  
 Thursday, April 25—Milwaukee (N)  
 Friday, April 26—Cincinnati (N)  
 Saturday, April 27—Cincinnati (N)  
 Sunday, April 28—Cincinnati (D-SX)

Friday, May 10—Chicago (N)  
 Saturday, May 11—Chicago (2-TW)  
 Sunday, May 12—Chicago (D)  
 Monday, May 13—New York (N)  
 Tuesday, May 14—New York (N)  
 Wednesday, May 15—New York (LD)  
 Thursday, May 16—Philadelphia (N)  
 Friday, May 17—Philadelphia (N)  
 Saturday, May 18—Philadelphia (D)  
 Sunday, May 19—Pittsburgh (D)  
 Monday, May 20—Pittsburgh (N)  
 Tuesday, May 21—Pittsburgh (N)  
 Wednesday, May 22—Pittsburgh (LN)

Monday, June 3—Los Angeles (N)  
 Tuesday, June 4—Los Angeles (N)  
 Wednesday, June 5—Los Angeles (LN)  
 Thursday, June 6—Off Day  
 Friday, June 7—San Francisco (N)  
 Saturday, June 8—San Francisco (N)  
 Sunday, June 9—San Francisco (N)  
 Monday, June 10—Chicago (N)  
 Tuesday, June 11—Chicago (N-SX)

Friday, June 28—St. Louis (N)  
 Saturday, June 29—St. Louis (N)  
 Sunday, June 30—St. Louis (N)  
 Monday, July 1—St. Louis (N-SX)  
 Tuesday, July 2—Cincinnati (N)  
 Wednesday, July 3—Cincinnati (LN)  
 Thursday, July 4—Cincinnati, (2-TW)  
 Friday, July 5—Milwaukee (N)  
 Saturday, July 6—Milwaukee (2-TW)  
 Sunday, July 7—Milwaukee (N)

Tuesday, July 23—Philadelphia (N)  
 Wednesday, July 24—Philadelphia (LN)  
 Thursday, July 25—Philadelphia (N)  
 Friday, July 26—New York (N)  
 Saturday, July 27—New York (N)  
 Sunday, July 28—New York (N-SX)  
 Monday, July 29—Off Day  
 Tuesday, July 30—Pittsburgh (N)  
 Wednesday, July 31—Pittsburgh (LN)  
 Thursday, August 1—Off Day  
 Friday, August 2—Los Angeles (N)  
 Saturday, August 3—Los Angeles (N)  
 Sunday, August 4—Los Angeles (N)  
 Monday, August 5—San Francisco (N)  
 Tuesday, August 6—San Francisco (N)  
 Wednesday, August 7—San Francisco (LN)

Tuesday, August 20—Cincinnati (N)  
 Wednesday, August 21—Cincinnati (LN)  
 Thursday, August 22—Off Day  
 Friday, August 23—St. Louis (N)  
 Saturday, August 24—St. Louis (N)  
 Sunday, August 25—St. Louis (D)  
 Monday, August 26—Milwaukee (N-SX)  
 Tuesday, August 27—Milwaukee (N)  
 Wednesday, August 28—Milwaukee (LN)  
 Thursday, August 29—Off Day

Friday, September 6—Chicago (N)  
 Saturday, September 7—Chicago (N)  
 Sunday, September 8—Chicago (N)

Friday, September 20—Philadelphia (N)  
 Saturday, September 21—Philadelphia (D)  
 Sunday, September 22—Philadelphia (N)  
 Monday, September 23—Off Day  
 Tuesday, September 24—Pittsburgh (N)  
 Wednesday, September 25—Pittsburgh (N)  
 Thursday, September 26—Pittsburgh (N)  
 Friday, September 27—New York (N)  
 Saturday, September 28—New York (D)  
 Sunday, September 29—New York (D)

CODE: (D) Day Game, (N) Night Game,  
 (2-TW) Twi-night Doubleheader,  
 (LD) Ladies Day, (LN) Ladies Night,  
 (SX) Sixshooter Club.