

Third Game.

The Series moved to Baltimore amid tremendous scenes of jubilation on the part of Baltimore fans. For this, the first World Series game ever played in Baltimore, an attendance of 54,445 turned out. This was the biggest crowd ever to see a baseball game in Baltimore, the previous record of 52,833 had been set by the International League Orioles of 1944, when playing in the Little World Series.

Baltimore won the third game on a six-hit shut-out by another young pitcher, 22 year old Wally Bunker. The Orioles scored the only run of the game on a homer by 22 year old outfielder Paul Blair. This came in the fifth inning. The game was a real pitching duel, Baltimore got only three hits, and Los Angeles six.

Fourth Game.

This was very much a replica of the third game, great pitching and defensive play by both clubs. Again the Orioles 1 - 0 winning margin was accounted for by a home-run. This time a fourth inning one-out homer by Frank Robinson. Dave McNally was the winning pitcher allowing four hits. The loser was Don Drysdale who also conceded four hits.

The Dodgers broke a 61 year old record for ineffectiveness in scoring, by playing the final 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ innings of the Series without scoring a run. The previous record had stood since 1905, when the New York Giants had held the Philadelphia Athletics scoreless for 28 consecutive innings.

The Orioles had a team batting average for the Series of .200, and a fielding percentage of 1.000. The Dodgers had a batting average of .142, a new Series record for lowest average, and a fielding percentage of .961.

The attendance for the four games was 220,791. The total receipts set a new record of 557,384 dollars.

A big factor in Baltimore's winning of the American League pennant for the first time, and in their Series triumph was the bat of Frank Robinson. Baltimore traded pitching to Cincinnati during the close season to obtain Robinson, and Frank really lived up to Baltimore's expectations. In his first season in the American League he won the Triple Crown, the first to do so since Mickey Mantle in 1956. He led the league in Average with .316, Home Runs 49, and Runs Batted In 122.



BASEBALL

Courier

No. 24, DECEMBER 1966.

EUROPEAN CUP

On Saturday, September 3rd, the Dutch club Haarlem Nicols won the European Cup by defeating Europhon of Milan in the final, the score was 10 - 4. The game was played at Haarlem, and Haarlem Nicols became the first Dutch club ever to win this competition.

Ton ter Neuzen was the winning pitcher, he also hit a three run homer in the eighth. The winners had the following line-up, p. I. ter Neuzen; c. De Zwart; lb. Boudewijn Maat; 2b. Herman Beidschat; 3b. Robert Maat; ss. Leo Kops; outfielders, Bob Estavillo, Simon Heemskerk, and Rickey Placidus.

Haarlem scored in the first innings; following an in-field hit by Heemskerk, Boudewijn Maat advanced Heemskerk by a sacrifice bunt, Heemskerk then scored on a double by Estavillo. Europhon tied the score in the second innings. Richard Leech, one of their three American players, reached lb. on a fielder's choice, he stole second, and advanced to third on a wild throw, he scored on a sacrifice fly to centre field Cavazzone.

Haarlem scored three runs in the third innings. B. Maat got to first, stole second, and after Estavillo and Beidschat had struck out, B. Maat scored on a hit to left field by Placidus. Robert Maat then homered, scoring two

runs.

Beidschat hit a two run homer in the fifth. In the seventh Robert Gandini scored for Europhon with a home-run. In the Haarlem half of the seventh Boudewijn Maat hit a homer. In the eighth, with one away, De Zwart and Kops got safeties and were scored on ter Neuzen's homer. In the ninth Europhon scored twice.

Team batting averages for the game were Haarlem Nicols .286, Europhon .107. Europhon used two pitchers, Franco Paschetto, the starter, lasted $4\frac{1}{3}$ innings, Luigi Consonni came on in relief and pitched $3\frac{2}{3}$ innings.

The Netherlands will have two clubs in the European Cup competition in 1967, Haarlem Nicols, the holders, and Rotterdam Sparta, the 1966 Dutch champions.

LOOKING AROUND by Don Smallwood.

Each year it becomes more evident that soccer and rugby are encroaching on what was traditionally their close season. This overlap into the baseball season is quite a problem, and one which we cannot do much about in our present state. The only suggestion that I can make to counter this is to start our season a little earlier, and to whip-up interest in our game when their's is at its last ebb. Another suggestion that might assist baseball is that instead of playing cup finals, play-off games, etc. at the end of the season when we have difficulty in obtaining grounds, and newspapers will not spare space for baseball because of the pressure on space for football, we should hold such important games over until the following year. They could then be played in mid-summer, we should be able to obtain grounds and publicity, and we would have the winter months when we could tie-up all the organising necessary for such show-piece games.

I was one of the "Few" who braved the elements to watch the 1966 Cup Final between Stretford and Liverpool Aces. My reward was to see one of the best games that I have seen for a long time, with a close score, 3 - 1 for Stretford. The standard of play was very high, and the umpiring was really first class. I was disappointed by the lack of support from Southern clubs, and the organisation would have been better if Organising Secretary, Peter Ash, had received more assistance. He had to stage the game with extremely limited notice of the teams taking part, and he had to attempt to put on a prestige game on a shoe-string budget.

At the end of every season the usual post-mortem is carried out on what really went wrong during the season. Then the usual pattern is that everything is forgotten until the end of the next season when the same fruitless procedure occurs once again.

In an effort to combat this lethargic approach to the game's problems, the National League is holding a series of meetings throughout the country during the close season, these meetings will enable local problems to be discussed at length.

The National League is in the midst of great changes, there are three major proposals to be placed before the Annual General Meeting. These proposals if accepted would change not only the pattern of play, but the whole concept of the league.

The first change would be administrative, it is proposed that a number of three man commissions should be set up, each commission would be responsible for running an area league. This idea would give more scope for local competitions, and would remove the burden from the shoulders of one person as has been the case up to now.

The National League at General Meetings would decide on the method of tackling the problems of furthering our sport, i.e., schools and youth clubs baseball. The officials would then tackle these problems, in their own areas they should be in closer contact with local education authorities than any national official could be.

The second item to be debated is the problem of umpires, this has been with us for years. We must face the fact that the National Association of Umpires has failed. I do not intend to dwell on the reasons for the collapse, but let us hope that any fresh proposals regarding umpires receive more support than the National Association had. It has been suggested that umpires should be incorporated into the National League as an Umpires Division, this should lead to a closer liaison between the teams and officials. The Umpires Division would have voting rights and it would appoint its own divisional officers, the Division would affiliate to the National Baseball Congress. Alongside this suggestion would be a scheme whereby each club in membership would register a substitute umpire from among its members. This would ensure that a registered umpire would take charge of each game next season.

The third proposal is by far the most controversial,

it is the establishment of one Major League of six clubs to commence in 1967. This Major League scheme would be combined with promotion and relegation for two Senior Divisions. If you can visualise the plan, we should have the Major League at the top of the ladder, immediately below would be the two Senior Divisions, North and South, each having six clubs. Feeding the Senior Divisions would be the Regional Leagues, Midland, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and two in the South.

The Major Division would be our shop window with all games being well presented and of a high standard. The Senior Divisions would be of a limited inter-area type, giving clubs some experience of the travelling and the problems that they would have to face in the Major Division. The most important factor in these proposals would be the grouping of clubs of similar standard, rather than grouping governed by geography. This should have the effect of cutting down on the number of one-sided games which have been all too frequent recently, these games are detrimental to our sport both for players and spectators. The introduction of promotion and relegation would give a healthy flavour and incentive to all games.

An interesting feature of the area meetings that I have attended has been the general agreement that Great Britain should be represented in the European Championships at Antwerp in 1967. I have always considered it to be essential for any sport to have the incentive of selection to a national team to act as a spur to the players. During the near future I shall be presenting my report on the past season at the A.G.M. of the National League. I shall be unable to report any great strides forward, but we have lost no ground during 1966, and I believe that clubs are becoming more conscious of the responsibility that they must bear in the progress of our sport in Britain.

JAPAN SERIES

For the second year in succession the Japan Series was won by the Yomiuri Giants who beat the Nankai Hawks 4 games to 2. The Giants won the first game 12 - 5, lost the second 5 - 2. They took the next two games from the Hawks 3 - 2, and 8 - 1. The Hawks won the fifth game 4 - 3. The Giants then clinched the Series taking the sixth game 4 - 0.

The deciding game was pitched by Akio Masuda, a left-hander who had not pitched a complete game since he joined Yomiuri in 1962, he allowed five hits.

Yomiuri set a new team record for a six games series by hitting six home runs. The Most Valuable Player Award for the series went to switch-hitting centre fielder Isao Shibata of the Giants.

WEST GERMANY

Once again VFR Mannheim won the West German championship. The final standings are given below.

	Pl.	Won	L.	For	Ag.	Pts.
1. VFR Mannheim	8	7	1	65	28	14
2. Germania Colt 45. Mannheim	8	5	3	71	25	10
3. Rot-Weise Darmstadt	8	5	3	43	62	10
4. F.C. Bayern Munich	8	3	5	46	38	6
5. S.V. Waldhof	8	0	8	24	96	0

THE NETHERLANDS

Final Standings of the Major Division of the Dutch National Competition.

	Pl.	Won	L.	For	Ag.	Pts.
Sparta, Rotterdam	21	18	3	166	51	36
Haarlem Nicols	21	17	4	137	72	34
OVVO, Amsterdam	21	11½	9½	111	102	23
Ajax, Amsterdam	21	11	10	102	99	22
ABC, Amsterdam	21	9	12	99	127	18
HVA, Amsterdam	21	6	15	77	119	12
Schoten, Haarlem	21	6	15	107	159	12
HCK, Haarlem	21	5½	15½	63	133	11

In October a Youth Tournament was held in Rome, teams competing were The Netherlands, Italy A, Italy B, and West Germany. Before the commencement of the tournament it was decided that should two teams finish with an equal number of points, their position in the table should be determined by the total number of runs each had scored in the tournament, only runs scored in the first seven innings of each game to be counted. The final standings follow.

	Pl.	Won	L.	For	Ag.	Pts.
1. The Netherlands	2	2	0	31	0	4
2. Italy A	2	2	0	19	3	4
3. Italy B	2	1	1	0	19	2
4. West Germany	2	0	2	3	31	0
5.						

BASEBALL COURIER appears six times each year. The next issue will be published in mid-February, copy to be received by 10th January. The annual subscription is 4/-. P.O.'s should be made payable to William T. Morgan, and sent to 11 Heath Street, Riverside, Cardiff.

WORLD SERIES

The Baltimore Orioles shocked the baseball world by defeating the favourites, defending champions Los Angeles Dodgers in four straight games. The Dodgers had never lost a World Series game in Dodger Stadium until the opening game of this year's Series.

First Game. Baltimore 5 - Los Angeles 2.

This game was a personal triumph for Moe Drabowsky, a pitcher who had bounced about the major and minor leagues without any great success for a number of seasons. Coming on in relief of starter Dave McNally who worked $2\frac{2}{3}$ innings, Drabowsky was credited with the win, the Orioles were leading when McNally was removed from the game but he was unable to receive credit for the victory as he did not work the minimum of five innings necessary.

Drabowsky allowed one hit in $6\frac{2}{3}$ innings, only three Dodgers reaching first base. He struck out 11 men, a Series record for a relief pitcher; six of these strike-outs were consecutive, tying a Series record of 47 years standing.

Baltimore made a quick start to the scoring, when in the first inning, with one away, Russ Snyder walked, the next batter Frank Robinson, with the count 1 and 1, homered into the left field stand. Brooks Robinson came to the plate looked one over, and with a count of 1 and 0, homered into the same section as F. Robinson had done. The Orioles thus led 3 - 0.

In the second inning Baltimore added another tally, as Etchebarren walked, McNally sacrificed, and Snyder hit into left field. In the Dodgers' half of the second, Jim Lefebvre homered to make the score 4 - 1 for the Orioles.

In the third, L.A. made the score 4 - 2. McNally lost his control, and with one away, walked Johnson, T. Davis, and Lefebvre. Drabowsky came on, struck out Parker, walked Gilliam, forcing in a run, and then completed the inning by retiring Roseboro. Baltimore added another run in the fourth.

Second Game.

Baltimore came up with another pitching hero in this contest. Jim Palmer became the youngest pitcher ever to pitch a World Series shut-out, he was nine days short of his 21st birthday. With the great Sandy Koufax starting for the Dodgers, both pitchers dominated the first four innings, at the end of the 4th the game was a scoreless tie. Then, in the top of the fifth, Willie Davis in centre field for the Dodgers made three errors on two successive plays to present Baltimore with three unearned runs.

In the fifth inning, Baltimore scored in this fashion. Boog Powell led off with a single to left. Dave Johnson popped out attempting to bunt. Paul Blair hit a fly to deep centre. Davis lost this in the sun, the ball dropped at his feet, and Baltimore had runners at second and third as a result of this error. Etchebarren then hit a soft fly to shallow centre. Davis raced in, appeared to have caught the fly, but the ball bounced out of his glove. He retrieved the ball, and made a wild throw to the plate, two runners scored on this double error. Etchebarren had advanced to third on the play, and scored on Aparicio's double to left field.

In the succeeding inning the Dodgers added to their woes, when Willie Davis and Ron Fairly went after F. Robinson's long fly to right-centre. Either could have taken it, but they confused each other and allowed the ball to drop between them for a triple. Boog Powell drove in the run by pushing an easy single into right-centre field.

Willie Davis entered the record books as a result of his disastrous fifth innings. He is now listed as having made the most errors by an outfielder in a single World Series game, and in a single World Series inning. The losing pitcher was Koufax.

In the eighth inning Baltimore added two additional runs. F. Robinson walked, B. Robinson singled to left, Powell sacrificed. Johnson then smashed a drive off the legs of pitcher Ron Perranoski, who had come on in relief. The pitcher fell, but while on his hands and knees retrieved the ball, he tried to flip the ball to first base, although Johnson had already beaten any possible play at first. The hurried throw went wild, and ended in the dug-out, and the Orioles had forged 2 runs further ahead. Altogether, a game that the Dodgers would rather not remember.