

Braves, SF, Cubs Vie For Flag; AL Sluggers In Torrid Homer Race

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	55	28	.662	
Boston	43	40	.518	12
Detroit	41	41	.500	13½
Baltimore	40	43	.482	15
Kansas City	39	43	.476	15½
Chicago	40	45	.471	16
Cleveland	39	47	.453	17½
Washington	37	47	.440	18½

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Milwaukee	45	36	.556	
San Francisco	46	38	.548	½
Chicago	45	41	.523	2½
St. Louis	39	40	.494	5
Pittsburgh	41	43	.488	5½
Philadelphia	38	41	.481	6
Cincinnati	37	44	.457	8
Los Angeles	38	46	.452	8½

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Who's going to crack first in the National League race? While three of the so-called contenders faded away, Milwaukee and San Francisco are stepping along just half a game apart, and the suddenly competitive Chicago Cubs are at their heels.

The Braves kept that half-game edge with a 6-5 decision at St. Louis last night after blowing a 4-0 lead. Just .008 percentage points behind are the Giants, who whipped Philadelphia's fizzling Phillies 9-2.

The Cubs kept their third-place perch, 2½ games behind Milwaukee, by running up a five-game streak for the first time this sea-

son, sweeping their second double-header in four days with come-back 5-4 and 7-5 decisions over Cincinnati.

That gave the Redlegs a seven-game losing string, and they escaped the cellar only because of Pittsburgh's 7-4 victory over Los Angeles.

In the American League, first-place New York defeated Detroit 3-2. Second-place Boston, 12 games behind, beat Kansas City 5-2. Baltimore split a two-night pair with Chicago, winning 6-5 after a 6-1 White Sox victory. And Washington clipped Cleveland 7-6 as Roy Sievers' second two-run homer of the game capped a four-run ninth.

Brave Homers Win

Solo homers by Hank Aaron and Eddie Mathews, who hit a pair, gave it to the Braves in the fifth against reliever Chuck Stobbs (0-2).

Spahn, now 11-6, needed more help after the fifth. He got it from reliever Don MacMahon, who came on with the bases loaded in the eighth, and left fielder Andy Pafko, who made a diving catch of Don Blasingame's long liner to end the eighth.

Things were easier for the Giants. They counted four runs in the second, three of 'em unearned. Johnny Antonelli, who hit a two-run triple in the deciding second, won his 10th with a nine-hitter and had the Phils blanked until the seventh. Willie Mays cracked his slump, getting three hits for the first time since June 6, one a two-run double. Jack Sanford (6-8) lost his third in a row.

The Cubs, held to four hits for eight innings, won the opener with four consecutive hits off Harvey Haddix and loser Hal Jeffcoat in a three-run ninth inning.

In the nightcap, the Reds made 9 of their 11 hits good for extra bases, with Pete Whisenant hitting two solo homers. But the Cubs busted through with three in the eighth.

The only race worth mentioning in the American League is the chase for the home run crown, and it's a pip.

There's only a four-homer gap between Boston's Jackie Jensen, the leader with 27, and defending champ Roy Sievers of Washington and early leader Bob Cerv of Kansas City, tied with 23. Mickey Mantle of New York, the hottest of 'em all, is in between with 24.

For the record, they'll all be behind Babe Ruth's record 60 pace of 1927. He had 30 at about this stage.

Bob Turley won his 14th on a three-run, fourth-inning homer by Jerry Lumpe. Jim Bunning beat Turley in a strikeout duel but lost his sixth. He fanned 10. Turley gave up three hits.

Ike Delock needed relief help, but won his 12th in a row, ninth this season, for the Red Sox. Little Murry Dickson had 'em blanked on one hit until a four-run sixth capped by Jensen's two-run double.

Southpaw Jack Harshman (7-7) drove in four runs with a pair of homers while beating Chicago with a nine-hitter, shutting out his ex-mates without a hit after the fifth inning. Dick Donovan (5-10) won the opener. Milt Pappas lost it in a two-run second on RBI singles by Billy Goodman and Nellie Fox.

The Senators, given a 3-1 lead on Sievers' first homer, finally nailed it against Mossi and loser Ray Narleski (10-7). Dick Hyde (6-2) won it in relief.

Ring Record

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MONTREAL — Yvon Durelle, 17½, Baie Ste. Anne, N. B., stopped Mike Holt, 169, Johannesburg, South Africa, 9. (Durelle retained British Empire lightweight title).

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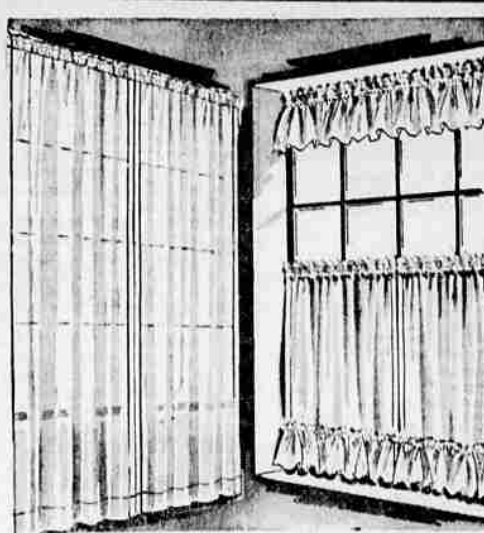
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