

Dodgers In Middle Of Political Fight In Los Angeles

Editor's Note: The Dodgers reach a crossroad in their brief history as the Los Angeles team in the National League June 3 when voters ballot on a referendum on the proposed Chavez Ravine site for their baseball park. In the following story Alex Kahn discusses the issues involved.

By ALEX KAHN
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LOS ANGELES (UP) — The Dodgers return from their first Eastern road trip June 3 but that election night game with Cincinnati will be over-shadowed by the

most bitter political fight in recent Los Angeles history—over the Dodgers.
The issue is a referendum on a contract between the city and the baseball club transferring some 300 acres of Chavez Ravine to the Dodgers as a site for a proposed 12 million dollar stadium.
The Dodgers came to Los Angeles in the belief that they would have the site of their choice for the stadium, holding up the franchise transfer until the city council last October by a 10-4 vote approved the Chavez Ravine contract.
But almost before the ink was

dry on Mayor Norris Poulson's signature to the contract, referendum petitions were in circulation. They obtained 51,767 signatures, more than the necessary 10 per cent of the votes cast in the previous general election, and the issue was on the ballot.
IDEAL LOCATION
Chavez Ravine is a valley located less than a mile from the interchange of four freeways, lifelines of the city so dependent on auto transportation, making it an ideal location for an activity drawing large crowds.
For years it had been a suburban residential area. But shortly after World War II the

city proposed developing it into a municipal housing area and acquired 185 acres by purchase and condemnation, with the federal government paying most of the cost.
But the housing issue became involved in politics in the 1953 election with Poulson, then a congressman, winning the majority election by campaigning against public housing. The project was abandoned and subsequently the property was conveyed to the city with a stipulation that it could be used only for public purposes. And that's one of the issues involved in the referendum. After the Dodgers announced

that they planned to transfer the club's franchise, President Walter F. O'Malley surveyed numerous proposed sites and picked Chavez Ravine as ideal for their 50,000-seat baseball park.
The Dodgers did not desire the city to build them a stadium and the city had indicated a few years earlier that the voters were in no mood to vote bonds for such a purpose.
BASEBALL DOLLARS
The Brooklyn club prior to moving West had sold Ebbets Field and their Montreal farm club stadium and had what O'Malley termed "baseball dollars" to invest in a baseball park.

When O'Malley decided to move west, he traded his Ft. Worth, Tex., farm club for the Los Angeles club in the Pacific Coast League and obtained the 20,000-seat Wrigley Field here.
That property, although too small for a major league club, was ideally suited for a municipal recreation area in a predominantly Negro neighborhood badly in need of such facilities.
O'Malley proposed swapping Wrigley Field, variously valued at between two and three million dollars, for the Chavez Ravine site. The city accepted the proposal.
Opponents termed it a "tre-

mendous give-away" of city property, claiming Chavez Ravine was much more valuable than Wrigley Field.
Proponents pointed out that O'Malley had committed himself to spending \$500,000 for a youth recreation facility adjacent to the proposed ball park and \$60,000 a year for 20 years to maintain it. They also pointed out that the Dodgers would pay around \$350,000 a year in taxes.
NO SPECULATION
But opponents declared the original cost of the Chavez Ravine property to the government plus the \$4,740,000 the city and

county promised to put up for grading and access roads brought the value of the "package" to more than 11 million dollars.
As the election approached, O'Malley refused to speculate on what he would do if the referendum failed. He declared he was confident Los Angeles wanted the Dodgers here and would adopt the referendum. And the crowds the Dodgers have been drawing to their temporary Coliseum home indicated the people wanted major league baseball. But only the election results will decide if they want the Dodgers in Chavez Ravine.

Kubs, Weed Vie At Gem Stadium

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Klamath Falls	1	0	1.000	
Mount Shasta	1	0	1.000	
Yreka	1	0	1.000	
Weed	0	1	.000	
Scott Valley	0	1	.000	
Dunsmuir	0	1	.000	

Sunday's Schedule
Weed at Klamath Falls
Yreka at Mount Shasta
Scott Valley at Dunsmuir

Big Charlie Bogle, 6-9 Klamath Kubs lefthander, goes to the mound this afternoon in quest of his second straight Northern California League baseball victory as the

Idaho Dumps Huskies, 5-3

MOSCOW, Idaho (UP) — Idaho proved that neighborhood rivalries never died by knocking Washington State away from the Northern Division baseball title with a 5-3, 10-inning win.
Victory for the Vandals came in the 10th on a two-run home run by Junior Jim Throckmorton, who has his hand in every run scored by Idaho. In addition to his homer, he hit two doubles, drove in three runs and scored three times himself.

A Washington State win would have given it the crown. The Cougars would have been tied with Oregon State in the final standings, but under conference rules would have taken the title since it had the best record against the other. WSC won three of four from OSC.

Throckmorton's homer came with two out. Bob Dehlinger opened the last of the 10th with a walk. He moved to second on a sacrifice by pitcher Val Johnson. Then lefty Jim hammered the ball over the far-way left field wall.

Johnson limited the Cougars to seven hits, the same number given up by loser Dick Montee. Floyd Damon hit a solo home run in the second and WSC scored single runs in the sixth and seventh.

Sophomore Montee also pitched a good game, but the Vandals took the lead with a two-run burst in the first and scored again in the third.
WSC 010 001 100 0-3 7 2
Idaho 201 000 000-5 7 5
Montee and Whiting; Johnson and Knivla.

Merrill Nine, Condon To Vie

Tuesday afternoon on Merrill field the Merrill Huskies will face the Condon nine in the quarter-finals of the state "B" school baseball playoffs.
Condon handed Sisters a 4-0 trimming, Friday afternoon to become district 6-B 2 champions. Schaefer, the Condon hurler, pitched a perfect game against Sisters; no hits, no runs, with no one reaching first base over the seven-inning route.

Coach Al Keck's Huskies sailed through their season without a loss while winning nine, to gain the District 3 championship.
The Merrill starting lineup for Tuesday's game will include Dean Haskins, catching, Perry Lane, pitching, Doug Everson on first, Butch Johnson, on second, Bucky Wilson at shortstop, Duane Raines at third, Steve Hobson in left field, John Haskins in center and Dennis Salvadori in right.

Game time is 2:30 p.m. and admission prices are \$1 for adults and 50 cents for students.

Bruins PCC Net Winners

SEATTLE (UP) — The UCLA tandem of Myron Franks and John Cranston won the doubles crown of the Pacific Coast Conference tennis tournament Saturday and gave the Bruins the team title with six points.
Franks, a singles finalist, and Cranston, dropped Alex Olmedo and Jim Buck of Southern California 9-7, 6-1 in the doubles wind-up.

Southern California finished in second place in the team standings with five points.
Franks, who had knocked off Jack Douglas of Stanford 6-4, 6-2 in the morning semifinals, lost out to Olmedo 6-3, 6-4 in the singles championship game. Olmedo had brushed Cranston aside 6-2, 7-5 in his semifinal test.
Stanford took third in the team standings with two points and Oregon State got one. Washington, California, Oregon, Washington State and Idaho were blacked.

Today's Pitchers

NEW YORK (UP) — Probable pitchers for Sunday's major league games (won and lost records in parentheses):

NATIONAL LEAGUE
San Francisco at Pittsburgh (2) — Gomez (4-3) and Montzani (2-3) vs. Raydon (0-0) and Law (5-2).
Los Angeles at Philadelphia (2) — Erskine (2-2) vs. Roberts (4-4).
St. Louis at Cincinnati (2) — Brosnan (3-4) and L. McDaniel (3-3) vs. Haddix (1-3) and Rabe (0-2).
Chicago at Milwaukee (2) — Fodge (1-0) and Phillips (2-0) vs. Rush (3-2) and Trowbridge (0-1).
AMERICAN LEAGUE
New York at Cleveland (2) — Ford (4-2) and Kucks (2-1) vs. Narleski (5-3) and Tomaneck (1-0).
Boston at Chicago (2) — Bauman (1-2) and Smith (3-0) vs. Donovan (2-4) and Pierce (1-4).
Washington at Detroit (2) — Ciolette (0-1) and Kemmerer (1-2) vs. Bunning (1-4) and Aguirre (0