Today's Sports Parade

By OSCAR FRALEY
United Press Sports Writer

NEW YORK (UP) — Ponderous Vic Raschi won't say it but he is determined today to prove that the New York Yankees made a mistake when they peddled him to the St. Louis Cardinals.

Big Vic, you'll remember, was part of the two-way surprise of the off-season. After 17 years in the Yankee chain he went to the Cardinals and Country Slaughter, after 16 years in the Redbird organization, went to the Yankees.

The deals weren't connected but they left both men with the same bitter reaction.

Slaughter was outspoken about his disappointment at leaving old, familiar scenes. Raschi, ever the introvert, contemplated the switch with the reserve of a Supreme Court judge and took umbrage only with the parting words of the Yankees.

The inference was that Raschi was one of those guilty of "complacency," a word exhumed by the Yankees to get their pennant-surfeited athletes "on the ball" in an attempt for a sixth consecutive flag.

"As far as that is concerned," Vic pronounced, "I'll stand on my record — and I think it's good enough."

It would seem to be, indeed. As a member of the five-in-a-row club, Raschi over that span won 92 games against only 40 losses. He had a 21-10 mark in 1949, led the American League in percentages with a .724 mark in 1950 on 21 wins and eight losses; had a 21-10 mark in 1951 when he led the league in strikeouts; scored a 16-6 mark in 1952 and had a 13-6 record in 1953.

It stands there in black and white that he tailed off over the last two years. Which may be why the Yankees tried to slash his $40,000 salary to $30,000 this season. Vic wouldn't have any of it, and the next thing he knew he was in a Cardinal uniform.

A pronounced introvert who long has kept his own counsel and a man who never joined in the horseplay of the Yankee family, Vic doesn't pop off now. He becomes a man with an icy exterior when he is asked to compare the Yankees and the Cardinals.

"The Cardinals have a tradition of their own," he says in what is, for him, a long speech. "They, too, have the winning spirit and the winning habit."

Big Vic is civil, but that's all. There is no effort to extend himself to make friends or influence people. He answers questions simply and briefly but doesn't elaborate. At 35, he has molded to a form which has hardened beyond change.

But there is an ever more pronounced bulge to his determined jaw this year, a season in which he already has won five games without defeat. He is in the best shape in years, down to a streamlined 200 pounds which is some 15 less than when he wound up as a Yankee. But he still isn't talking.

It was he who snapped a 12-game Cardinal losing streak at Ebbets Field by walloping the Dodgers, 10 to 1.

"It wasn't anything," he said briefly. "Someone would have done it eventually."

No jubilation was there. All you could feel was a grim sort of satisfaction. Raschi will be a big winner for the Cards, but you know that even though they're in another league he's pitching every game against the Yankees.

SPORTS — REUBEN .....

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS
By UNITED PRESS

American League

	W.	L.	Pct.
Cleveland	20	10	.667
New York	19	11	.633
Detroit	16	10	.615
Chicago	19	13	.594
Baltimore	12	15	.444
Washington	10	18	.357
Philadelphia	10	19	.345
Boston	7	17	.292

Wednesday's Results
Detroit 4 Philadelphia 3
New York 3 Chicago 2
Cleveland 5 Boston 3
No games Thursday

Friday's Games
Chicago at Detroit (night)
Baltimore at Cleveland (night)
Philadelphia at Washington (night)
Boston at New York (night)

National League

	W.	L.	Pct.
St. Louis	18	14	.563
Philadelphia	16	14	.533
Brooklyn	16	14	.533
Milwaukee	15	14	.517
New York	16	15	.516
Cincinnati	17	16	.515
Chicago	14	14	.500
Pittsburgh	11	22	.333

Wednesday's Results
Chicago 9 Brooklyn 3
St. Louis 3 New York 0
Milwaukee 6 Philadelphia 2 (night)
Pittsburgh 3 Cincinnati 2 (night)

Friday's Games
Pittsburgh at Brooklyn (night)
New York at Philadelphia (night)
Milwaukee at Chicago
Cincinnati at St. Louis (night)

Yankee Steamroller Now In High Gear

.... By CARL LUNDQUIST .....
....United Press Sports Writer....

Belatedly, but with the same old devastating force, the Yankee steamroller is in high gear again, leaving the fans in town after town with their hopes crushed and a feeling that it will be the same old kind of monotonous pennant race in the American League.

It is an old familiar pattern. Enthusiasm ran high in Cleveland, teams started out brilliantly and dominated the early phase of the race. The Yankees faltered. They couldn't even win at home. Then they launched a Western trip in Cleveland and the Indians took the first game.

Boom. The Yankees rebounded to take the next two. On they moved to Detroit where the Tigers were in first place, a completely rejuvenated team from the second division laggards of the last two seasons. The old crusher rolled into action and the Tigers were tamed three in a row. In Baltimore, where the fans are still a little awed just to have a big league team, they were satisfied for a double header split with the Yankees, but at Chicago, last stop on the first Western tour the fans hoped for a "kill."

.. .. Chicago Fans Suffer .. ..

The Chicago fans suffered most of all because the White Sox had two games all but won, yet lost both in the fina, innings as the Yankees ended their trip with 8 wins in 10 games, just a length behind first place Cleveland. The Indians are on top only because of a seven game winning streak that started - significantly - the day after the Yankees left town.

An error by shortstop Al Carrasquel led to two unearned runs in the eighth Wednesday as the Yankees tied the score at 2-all, then they won it 3-2 in the ninth when Gil Mc Dougald was hit by a Billy Pierce pitch, took third on Andy Carey's single and scored on a force out as reliever Bob Grim gained his second victory.

Cleveland also scored two unearned runs in the eighth to defeat the Red Sox 5-3, while Detroit beat the Athletics 4-3 on Al Kaline's bases-loaded single in the ninth, and Baltimore topped Washington 5-3 on an eight hitter by comebacker Joe Coleman, who won his third in a row and fourth of the season.

..... Cards In First .....

In the National' the Cards took over first place with a five-hit, 3-0 victory by Vic Raschi over the Giants, his fifth in a row and his first shutout. The Braves defeated the Phillies 6-2 on Warren Spahn's seven-hitter; the Cubs set back the slumping Dodgers on four hits, 9-3, with a fantastic nine run inning in which they made only three hits; and Pittsburgh edged Cincinnati 3-2 on Max Surkont's eight-hitter for his third win.

Two errors by shortstop Milt Bolling paved the way for Cleve-Lemon pitched his sixth victory, a four-hitter, and Al Rosen hit his sixth homer in five games for a league pacing total of nine.

Baltimore made six straight singles good for four runs in the sixth to wind up its home stand with seven victories and three defeats. All of the hits by Dick Kryhoski, Sam Mele, Bob Kennedy, Vern Stevens, Clint Courtney, and Billy Hunter-came with two out. Roy Sievers homered for Washington.

Ray Boone, who walked and took third when catcher Wilmer Shantz erred on Walt Dropo's attempted sacrifice, scored Detroit's winning run on Kaline's hit. Boone and rookie Bill Tuttle made three hits each for the Tigers. Don Bollweg hit a homer for the slumping A's.

Red Schoendienst and Rip Repulski hit Cardinal homers and Raschi himself drove in the other run with a single in beating his opponent, Sal Maglie.

.....Dodgers Fall Apart .....

Dee Fondy's three-run homer was the big blow as the Dodgers fell apart and, not only committed three errors, But yielded four walks and a wild pitch. Billy Cox hit a Dodger homer. Bob Rush, yielding three of Brooklyn's four hits, gained his third victory.

Ed Mathews hit his seventh homer and added a double to place Spahn to his fourth victory at Philadelphia.

Dick Hall hit a two-run single in the fifth to tie the score at 2-2 for the Pirates then Surkont squeeze-bunted home the winning run. Singles by Sid Gordon and Toby Atwell and a hit batsman had loaded the bases.

Wednesday's Star: Vic Raschi of the Cardinals who pitched them into first place with his first National League shutout and his fifth straight victory a 3-0 five hitter over the Giants.

SPORTS SHORTS

BALTIMORE, Md. (UP) — With the favored Correlation, Hasty Road, Admiral Porter and for free already entered, a field of as many as 11 starters appeared possible today for Saturday's $100,000 Preakness at Pimlico.

There was some doubt about whether Hasty Road, the probable second choice in the mile-and-three-sixteenths classic, would run, even though officially entered Wednesday. Harry Trotek, trainer of the Hasty House farm colt, said Wednesday just before leaving for Chicago, that Hasty Road might be scratched.

DURHAM (UP) — The University of North Carolina was in last place in the Big Four baseball race today, replacing Duke's Blue Devils who edged them 4-3 yesterday in a game shortened to five innings by rain.

The two teams wind up their regular season at Chapel Hill tomorrow and the best North Carolina can hope for is a tie with Duke at a season record of 3-6 in Big Four competition. That would be a tie for second and last place because Wake Forest and N. C. State have clinched first at 6-3.

Fayetteville was back in the lead in the Carolina Baseball League Thursday although the Highlanders didn't hit a bat as half of the loop action was rained out last night.

Bun-Gas boosted Fayetteville back to the top rung by beating Greensboro in both ends of a doubleheader 7-1 and 8-1. Andy Olsen allowed the Patriots a skimpy four hits in the seven-inning opener and Benny Malcolm gave up just five in the nightcap, shortened to eight innings because of an 11:50 p.m. curfew. Rain had delayed the start of the first game.

The Asheville Tourists, who are setting the pace in the Tri-State League pennant race, last night chalked up another victory, but still lost ground to the rampaging Spartanburg Peaches.

While Asheville blanked Rock Hill, 7-0, second-spot Spartanburg picked up two shutout wins over Greenville, 4-0, and 8-0.

ATLANTA (UP) — The Memphis Chicks knew today what it's like to be thoroughly beaten.

Birmingham last night tromped Memphis 12-3 and while other teams have fallen by larger margins and other teams have been battered for more base hits, few other teams have been beaten so convincingly this season.

Jacksonville Manager Ben Geraghty has a sure-fire method of stopping a losing streak-he simply puts Humberto Robinson on the mound.

Robinson last night lifted the sagging Braves back on their feet with a beautiful three-hitter that topped Augusta 2-0.

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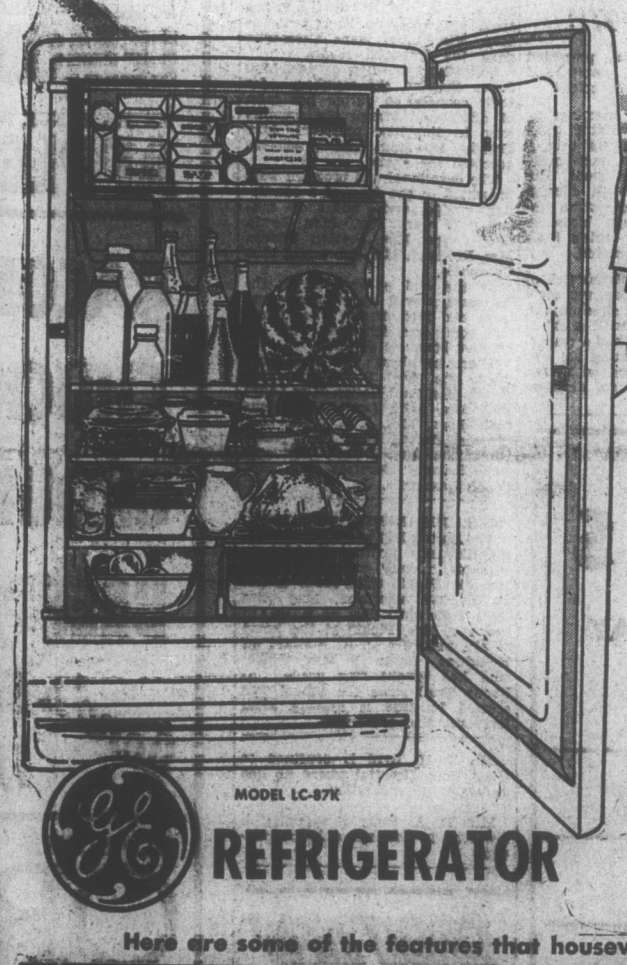

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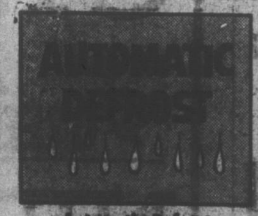

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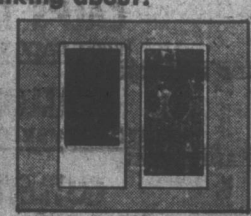

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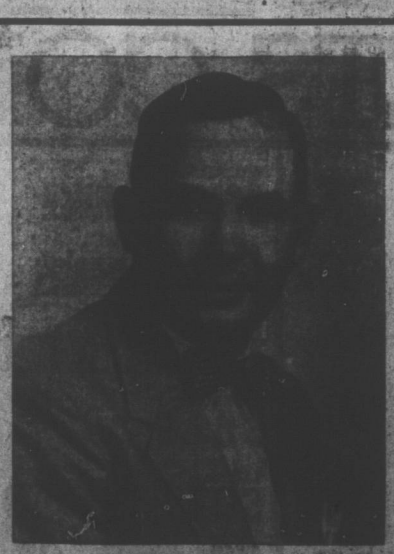

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