

# Yankees Win World Series Opener 9-5

## Dodgers Tie Up Game In 7th But No Match For Yanks In Final Innings

(By Jack Hand)  
 NEW YORK, (AP)—The proud New York Yankees battered Brooklyn's ace 20-game winner and three relief pitchers to beat the power-happy Dodgers at their own game Wednesday, 9-5, in the opening game of their bid for a record fifth straight world baseball championship.

Johnny Sain, a National League star with Boston in the 1948 series, choked off the Brooks after Allie Reynolds crumpled under a blistering early pace.

The Yanks startled a Stadium crowd of 69,374 by blasting Carl Erskine for four runs in the first inning. After the Dodgers finally fought back to tie in the seventh, they again applied the pressure to the shaky Dodger pitching staff.

Joe Collins, benched for Johnny Mize during a hitless 52 series, snapped the tie with a 360-foot home run smash in the Yankee seventh.

Sain drove in two with a double and Collins knocked in another with a single in the three-run eighth inning that ruined Dodger hopes.

It was a day of frustration for the Dodgers who never have won a series. Reeling after the first-inning blast, they finally managed to knock out a fast-tiring Reynolds in the sixth only to see the game go out the window when their own pitchers failed.

Twelve Brooks were stranded, only two short of the series record.

Best Dodger Pitcher  
 Jim Hughes, who allowed only one run in four innings after taking over from Erskine, was the only effective Dodger pitcher. After he went out for pinch-hitter George Shuba in the sixth, manager Chuck Dressen couldn't find a stopper.

Billy Martin hit a three-run triple with the bases loaded off Erskine in the first and added a pair of singles to lead the Yankee attack. Collins and Yogi Berra provided the home run punch.

Junior Gilliam, Gil Hodges and Shuba ripped into Reynolds' pitches for home runs before manager Casey Stengel brought in Sain. Curve ball Johnny allowed only one more run and five hits over the last four and two thirds innings to earn the victory.

From the time Gilliam, the rookie who chased Jackie Robinson off second base, hit his hom-

er into the right field seats in the fifth, it was obvious that Reynolds would be lucky to go nine.

Time after time he went to three balls on the hitter. When he finally was yanked after Hodges' blast and Shuba's two-run pinch homer in the sixth, he had thrown 104 pitches. Most pitchers average about 120 or so for a full game.

Although Reynolds failed in his attempt to tie Red Ruffing's all-time mark of seven series victories, he struck out six men.

The crowd barely had settled in the bright summery weather when the Yanks began to tee off on Erskine, counted on for three starts in Dressen's strategy.

In Trouble From Start  
 It was evident from the start that Erskine was having trouble with his curve ball when he walked Collins, the second hitter, on four pitches.

Hank Bauer slammed a long triple that rolled past Duke Snider in right centre, scoring Collins, and Erskine was in deep trouble.

Berra went down swinging but Erskine lost all control and passed Mickey Mantle and Gene Woodling on eight pitches. Martin's triple to left centre sent the Yanks out in front, 4-0.

Dodgers finally caught up with Reynolds in the fifth and lowered the boom on him in the sixth.

When Hodges, the hitless "goat" of last year's series with his 0-for-21 batting mark, drove a homer into the left field stands leading off the sixth, Reynolds was nearing the end. It actually was Hodges' first series hit in 24 trips—the last time up in 1949, 21 times last year and twice earlier Wednesday.

Carl Furillo, playing with a bandage and using a padded bat to cushion the left hand he injured in a recent fist fight with Leo Durocher, almost reached the stands with a sliced poke to right field which Hank Bauer caught.

When Cox singled to left centre, Dressen lifted Hughes for pinch hitter Shuba, a left-handed swinger. Shuba hit the fourth pitch into the first rows of the lower right field stands, just past the glove of Bauer.

Sain Takes Over  
 Sain took over after Shuba's homer, escaping further damage. Successive singles by Roy Campanella, Hodges and Furillo drove

home Campy with the tying run in the seventh. But that was all.

Twice Dressen tried to advance the runners with sacrifice bunts but both Cox and Clem Labine, the third pitcher, forced runners at third on Berra's alert play.

Collins' homer put the Yanks back on top. When Bauer and Berra followed with singles, Labine was replaced by Ben Wade who struck out Mantle to end the frame but who took it on the chin in the eighth.

Martin singled with one out. Phil Rizzuto walked, Sain doubled home two and Collins singled to score Sain for the three "icing" runs.

"Reynolds just ran out of gas," said Stengel in the clubhouse. "It will be Lopat (lefthander Eddie Lopat), 16-4, tomorrow. I don't know whether I'll change my lineup against Roe, a lefthander 11-3".

Close To Record  
 The free-hitting game lasted three hours and 10 minutes, only nine minutes short of the record for a nine-inning game, and the gross receipts of \$465,287.00 and the net of \$387,574.74 were high, due to the price increases. The old record was \$378,778.73 at Cleveland, Oct. 10, 1948 in a game watched by 86,288 fans.

In the Dodger dressing room, Dressen said the play at third base on which Hodges was forced by Cox's bunt was the turning point. At that time the score was tied 5-5 with two men on and nobody out.

Dressen tossed his hat in the air and danced up and down in rage but did not make any official complaint to Art Gore of the National League, the third base umpire.

Neither manager would name pitchers past Thursday when two lefthanders will battle. Vic Raschi is expected to be the Yankee opener at Ebbets Field Friday and Dressen might even come back with Erskine (20-6) because he worked only one inning Wednesday.

Former Famous Pitcher Dies  
 DOWELL, Mass. (AP)—George A. (Lefty) Tyler, 63, one of the pitching mainstays of the "Miracle Braves" of 1914, died Tuesday. He had been a shoe cutter for many years.

Tyler pitched for the Braves from 1910 to 1917 and for the Chicago Cubs 1918-1921. He had a life-time pitching record of 124 victories and 81 losses.

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