

THE SQUIBBER September 2020

The Squibber is the SABR Bob Davids Chapter's quarterly newsletter. It is emailed to chapter members roughly every three months. If you're a Bob Davids chapter member and are not getting the Squibber, please check that your email address and chapter affiliations listed on the SABR site are correct. Please send submissions for future editions to Squibber editor Walt Cherniak at wcherniakjr@aol.com.

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TRIVIA QUESTION: What is the Washington Senators' single-season record for most home runs as a catcher, and who achieved it? (See answer below)

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SAFE AT HOME TUESDAYS: Interviews with SABR Member Bruce Adams

With no Cal Ripken Collegiate Baseball League Bethesda Big Train games at Shirley Povich Field this summer, Bethesda Community Base Ball Club founder and president and SABR member Bruce Adams hosted eight "Safe at Home Tuesdays" interviews on bigtrain.tv about some of baseball's most admirable lives.

In case you missed any of them, all are available at your convenience via YouTube. Use the links below or go to the "Safe at Home Tuesdays" playlist in the bigtrain.tv archives.

Thanks to producer Patrick Sanderson, a summer 2020 Tim Kurkjian Sports Journalism Fellow at the Big Train, and the sponsor Dandy-Walker Alliance.

Here's the "Safe at Home Tuesdays" lineup:

- Mike Veeck (St. Paul Saints) on the life of Bill Veeck and how Veeck's "Fun Is Good" philosophy has inspired Big Train baseball at Shirley Povich Field;
- Maury Povich and George Solomon (former Washington Post sports editor) on the life of Shirley Povich;

- Hank Thomas (Johnson grandson and biographer) and Tim Kurkjian (ESPN) on the life of Walter Johnson;
- David Maraniss (Clemente biographer) and Duane Rieder (founder of Clemente Museum) on the life of Roberto Clemente;
- Dean Albany, Ben Trittipoe, and Bill Hickman discuss the history of summer college baseball in the Baltimore-Washington region. This interview is based on an article written by SABR members Hickman and Adams that will appear in *The National Pastime* (July 2020).
- Will Geoghegan (author of *Summer Baseball Nation*) joins Bruce Adams (author of *Fodor's Baseball Vacations*) on a virtual baseball road trip to iconic summer college ballparks;
- Aviva Kempner discusses her documentary films about the lives of Hank Greenberg and Moe Berg; and
- Bob Kendrick (Negro Leagues Baseball Museum), Doug Foster (grandnephew of Rube Foster), and Dwayne Sims (Negro League Legends Hall of Fame) celebrate the 100th anniversary of Negro Leagues.

TALKIN' BASEBALL: Upcoming Speakers Announced, By Dave Paulson

Here is the speaker schedule for the upcoming meetings of the "Talkin' Baseball" group. The Talkin' Baseball group normally meets on the first Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. Meetings are normally held at Brighton Gardens, 7110 Minstrel Way, Columbia, Md. Depending on the restrictions caused by COVID-19, the location may change, or meetings may be conducted by Zoom:

- Sept. 5 -- Jim Meisner: "Faith, Hope, and Baseball"
- Oct. 3 -- Dennis Hetrick, official scorer of the Washington Nationals
- Nov. 7 -- Tom Stone: "Now Taking the Field: Baseball's All-Time Dream Team for All 30 Franchises"
- Dec. 5 -- Ryan Swanson: "When Baseball Was White"
- Jan. 2, 2021 -- Perry Barber, female umpire
- Feb. 6 -- Thomas Wolf: "The Called Shot: The Chicago Cubs and the Unforgettable Major League Baseball Season of 1932"
- March 6 -- Greg Pryor: "The Year the Yankees Made Me Shave"
- April 3 -- Brian Wright: "The New York Mets All-Time All-Stars"
- May 1 -- Jarol Manheim: "This Never Happened"
- June 5 -- Bill Nowlin: "Working a Perfect Game"

Whether virtually or in person, join us, and bring a friend!

EMERGENCY STARTER'S BIG DAY: When Al Schacht Beat the Yankees, By Gary Sarnoff

Washington baseball enthusiasm was sky-high on the morning of July 5, 1920. Walter Johnson, coming off back-to-back shutouts, including the only no-hitter of his major-league career, was scheduled to pitch the afternoon game of a morning-afternoon double header against the New York Yankees. Before the morning game, Washington baseball fans lined up at the American League Park ticket window, hoping to get a pasteboard for the afternoon game.

The Senators won the morning game, 4-3, before 7,490 fans. Now came the main event of Walter Johnson vs. the Yankees. Before the afternoon game, Senators president and manager Clark Griffith

called a team meeting to inform his players about a big problem. “Walter Johnson can’t pitch,” he said with sadness. The great pitcher had strained a thigh muscle when pitching his first of his two shutouts. The injury did not bother him in his next outing, the no-hitter at Boston, but after Johnson boarded the train following that game, his leg began to hurt to the point where he was unable to lift it without feeling pain.

On the morning of July 5, he felt a recurrence of the injury and was ordered to bed rest for the rest of the afternoon. “Five years ago, I advertised Johnson would pitch, just like today,” Griffith continued, “and the same thing happened. The fans stormed the box office and demanded their money back. And we have a bigger crowd today. Men, I am in a desperate spot. And so is the pitcher who has to take Johnson’s place. Who wants the ball?”

The clubhouse became so quiet, one could hear a pin drop. Then a voice broke the silence. “I’ll pitch it, Griff,” said Al Schacht. Better known as the “The Clown Prince of Baseball,” Schacht at the time was a “serious” pitcher, going 14-10 with the Nats between 1919-21.

Griffith stared and said nothing. He then walked over to Schacht, gave the pitcher the baseball and gripped his shoulder. “If you win this game today, Al, as long as I have anything to say about this club you’ll have a job with me. I mean it,” said Griffith. “I don’t care if you win another game this season; you’ve got to win this one.”

Schacht began to warm up 20 minutes before the game. At first the crowd had no reaction, but as game time approached their worry became a panic. Then the megaphone announcer broadcasted the game’s batteries: “For New York, Shawkey pitching and Ruel catching. And for Washington, Schacht pitching and...”

Before the catcher’s name was announced, there was a thunderous “Booooo!” Pop bottles and seat cushions littered the field as Schacht made a mad dash for the safety of the dugout. After order was restored and the field was cleaned, Schacht raced to the pitcher’s mound as the fans began to hoot and holler.

He didn’t help ease the stress when he walked the first batter on four pitches. “Booooo!” The crowd once again threw bottles and seat cushions, causing another delay. But Schacht escaped the first inning without allowing a run. He also retired the Yankees in the second inning and escaped a jam in the third by striking out Babe Ruth with the bases loaded.

As he headed back to the dugout after the top of the third, he heard a fan cheer. “He must have been my brother,” said Schacht. Meanwhile, the Senators scored a run in the first inning and one in the second and then rallied for four more in the fourth. By the ninth inning, with Washington ahead, 9-3, the crowd began to stand and cheer for Schacht.

In the clubhouse following the game, Griffith hugged the winning pitcher. “Al, you were great, just great,” Griffith told the pitcher. “And what I said goes – I don’t care if you win another game this season!”

MARYLAND HOT STOVE FIRES UP: Monthly Meetings Resume, By Mark Pattison

After a four-month hiatus, the chapter's monthly Maryland Hot Stove dinner resumed in July -- albeit with new rules brought about by the coronavirus pandemic.

Before, an RSVP was not needed. Now, it is.

There is a maximum of six who can attend, so it's first-come, first-served when you RSVP.

Since the dinner begins at 6:30 p.m., those coming should arrive by 6:30 so that all can be seated together.

Masks are to be worn at all times except when eating or drinking.

We'll be sitting outside for dinner.

The Maryland Hot Stove is still at the Tastee Diner, 8601 Cameron St. just west of Georgia Ave. in Silver Spring.

Starting in November, though, the Maryland Hot Stove will move to Mi Rancho, 8701 Ramsey Ave. in Silver Spring -- just around the corner from the Tastee Diner. Mi Rancho has an outdoor patio that is protected by plastic sheeting in case of rain, and has sizable heat lamps in case of chill.

This will serve as the winter home -- and alternate rain site -- of the dinner, at least until the pandemic emergency is over. Mi Rancho has great Tex-Mex food and has been satisfying folks for a generation or more.

The Maryland Hot Stove continues to meet the third Tuesday of the month. Future dates for 2020 are Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15. To RSVP for any of these dates, get in touch with chapter secretary Mark Pattison at mpattison@catholicnews.com.

ROCKVILLE BASEBALL HALL OF FAME: Class of 2020 Announced, By Bill Hickman

The Rockville Baseball Hall of Fame selected four individuals for induction into its class. They are Keith Gordon, Chuck Miller, Farron Riggs and Mike Snowden.

Gordon, though born in Bethesda, was raised in Rockville, and went on to become a star player at Walter Johnson High School. In all four high school years, he led his team in batting average, home runs and RBI.

After attending Wright State University, Gordon became a second round draft pick by the Cincinnati Reds. He played 12 seasons of professional baseball in the minor leagues and foreign ball, topped by a three-game major league stint with the Reds in 1993. He hit .291 with the Reds' AA minor league affiliate at Chattanooga in 1993, and .339 two years in a row with the independent Atlantic City Surf.

Miller was the director of Rockville's Sports Division within its Recreation and Parks Department for 34 years. In that role, he devoted countless hours working in partnership with the Rockville Baseball Association to make baseball leagues available for youth in the city.

His duties ran the gamut of budget support for umpiring and official salaries, to equipment, to assuring proper field conditions, to meetings with parents and players, to board meetings, and many other aspects. In addition to those 34 years, he participated for another eight years as a star player in the league.

Riggs has had an outstanding record as head baseball coach at Rockville High School for 21 years. In 2018, he was named the Maryland Baseball Coach of the Year. He was named the Montgomery County Baseball Coach of the Year in 2011 and 2018. One of his 2018 players, Colin Gabele, said, "Riggs is the type of coach that will not only push you to your limits on the field, but who will also push you to be the best all-around person you can be. He cares about us as people and as players."

Robert "Mike" Snowden was the major leader in the development of African-American baseball talent in Rockville in the 1930s. He founded a team called the Rockville AC's, which gave African-American

youth an opportunity to hone their ballplaying skills and compete against older players, so that they would be competitive when they were ready to advance to higher levels of play.

As a result, he was a mentor to players like Pint Isreal in their quest to move up to the Negro Leagues. Snowden was also the baseball coach at the Rockville Colored High School. An active player himself, he pitched for the Washington Royal Giants, a semi-pro team that played its home games in Griffith Stadium and was led by manager Ben Taylor, who was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.

MYTHS OF BASEBALL: True or False? By Charles Pavitt

This is the eighth in a series of Squibber contributions intended to report the truth (as far as present data suggests) of the tidbits of “conventional wisdom” that TV analysts and comparable pundits make without any true knowledge about their validity.

Myth #22 – The rise in strikeouts is a recent phenomenon caused by sabermetric-fueled changes in batting philosophy.

According to a compilation of data from Rob Wood (1999), strikeouts hit a minimum in the 1920s (2.78 per game in the National League, 2.85 in the American League), and then rose until the 1960s (5.75 and 5.66, respectively). The lowering of the mound and (probably more important) shrinking of the strike zone after the Year of the Pitcher (1968) scaled things back for a bit, but by the 1990s the figures had risen higher (6.28 and 5.94, with the league difference probably due to the DH). According to Russell Carleton (2017), a leveling off (across leagues, 6.46 in 1996 and 6.52 in 2006) perhaps signaled an equilibrium, but by 2016 the number was 8.03.

Bottom line: The jump from 2006 may well be due to the batting philosophy change, but strikeouts have generally risen for 100 years.

Myth #23 – There are such things as pitching streaks and slumps.

Perhaps. Tom Tango, Mitchel Lichtman and Andrew Dolphin (TMA; 2006) singled out pitchers with four particularly good outings in a row (opposition wOBA less than .240 for starters and .175 for relievers) or four particular bad ones (.425 for starters and .455 for relievers) and looked at subsequent outings. In short, there was a carry-over effect in subsequent appearances for hot pitchers but not for cold (excepting the very next game for starters). However, TMA ignored ballpark effects and strength of opposition, which means that one cannot conclude anything definitive from this work.

Myth #24 – Young pitchers who have radically increased workloads from previous seasons are particularly susceptible to injury.

On Nov. 29, 2006, Tom Verducci wrote an article for Sports Illustrated online in which he proposed what he called the Year-After Effect but which has become known as the Verducci effect – that pitchers 25 years or younger who increased their workload by 30 or more innings in a season were particularly susceptible for injury in the following season.

Despite the fact that his claim was not based on solid quantitative research, the Verducci effect hypothesis became quite influential. Literally the next day (Nov. 30, 2006), evidence started appearing showing that Verducci was wrong. David Gassko (2006) compared 270 25-and younger MLB pitchers who would have qualified between 1996 and 2005 (average increase, 78.2 innings) with a matched set of 709 25-and-younger pitchers who would have not (average change actually decreased by 23 innings).

There was no Year-After effect; pitching performance was close to equivalent between the two groups

the year after. It is the case that most of the first group were starters and the second relievers, but that implies a bias in favor of finding the Verducci effect as the susceptible group would have pitched more innings each season than the non-susceptible.

Gassko's results have been duplicated repeatedly. To name four examples: Jeremy Greenhouse's (2010) uncovered no evidence for the Year-After effect but did note less risk for pitchers over 25; J.C. Bradbury (2010) and Derek Carty (2012) uncovered year-after improvement for the susceptible sample, and Russell Carleton's (2013)'s supposedly non-susceptible set were in actuality more likely to end up on the disabled list than the supposedly susceptible set.

AMAZING ORIGINS:

How a Detroit Tigers Fan Club Was Formed in Washington, By Mark Pattison

Here's an origins story even more interesting than The Amazing Spider-Man's. And it doesn't have a thing to do with radioactivity.

The year was 1983. There was no baseball in Washington. Cable TV wasn't available in all parts of the country, meaning ESPN was well short of ubiquity.

Doing their jobs in two branches of government (executive and legislative) were several Michigan natives who happened to love their hometown team, the Detroit Tigers. Three of them -- brothers Dale and Dennis Petroskey and their buddy Bill Mackay -- were part of the group catching a quick meal in some government cafeteria or other.

While government and legislation were supposed to be the focus of these mealtime confabs, the talk always seemed to turn to baseball. That's when the Petroskeys and Mackay came to the belief that there were surely other Michiganders who worked in the state's congressional delegation and cared just as deeply about the Tigers.

Thus was a weekly breakfast born in a cafeteria at the Longworth House Office Building. There was only one rule: No talk about politics; it was baseball, not politics, that brought them all together.

But what to call this bunch? There was an Emil Verban Society for Chicago Cubs fans in the nation's capital. But what Tiger could earn such accolades? Most every Baby Boomer knew Al Kaline, Willie Horton, Bill Freehan, Mickey Lolich, and a fistful of other Tigers who had played for the franchise for a decade-plus. What they needed was someone important -- yet so obscure that you had to be an honest-to-goodness Tigers fan to be in on the joke.

The choice was Mayo Smith, who at that time had been the last manager to pilot Detroit to a World Series championship. And that's how the Mayo Smith Society was born.

Some of the earliest Smithers had gone to Lakeland, Fla., for spring training, so they just slapped the Society's name on the 1984 trip, and it's turned into an annual event (well, not this year, but we have the custom-made Hawaiian shirts to demonstrate intent).

Of course, 1984 also happened to be the year of the Tigers' 35-5 start. Another original Mayoite wrote for the Wall Street Journal and penned a couple of features on the fan club -- still regarded as the only team fan club not run by that team. That brought more people into the Society. Then the local Detroit dailies got wind of the Society in their quest to write about anything and everything Tigers-related and did their own articles. Membership ballooned to close to 3,000.

As it turned out, a certain fresh-out-of-college guy by the name of Dave Raglin got a job with the Census Bureau and offered his services to the Society to do statistical number-crunching. And so was born Tigers Stripes, the Society's newsletter.

Have you ever tried stuffing 3,000 newsletters, not to mention labeling the envelopes and licking the envelopes and the stamps? The stuffing parties were actual parties. And since Tom Monaghan of Domino's Pizza had bought the team after the 1983 season, the D.C. Domino's franchise owner supplied lots of free pizza each month for the stuffing parties.

The Society began in 1984 to hold Annual Gatherings in Detroit with a lot of Tiger Stadium clubhouse tours and great Tigers from the past. Among them was Mark Fidrych, who wasn't in on the "Mayo Smith" joke; he was relieved to know it was a Tigers fan club, and not some meeting of doctors.

The Society adopted as its motto, "Tigers Fans Who Always Care," which came in handy when the Tigers' fortunes started to sag at the end of the 1980s. Weekly breakfasts at the Capitol turned into monthly dinners on Capitol Hill: first Pizzeria Uno, then Senators inside the old Holiday Inn on the Hill, followed by the Hawk 'n' Dove, the Capitol Lounge, and now Tunnickliff's Tavern across the street from Eastern Market. (This formed the basis for the Bob Davids Chapter's monthly "Hot Stove" dinners in Arlington and Silver Spring.)

One of the founders, Dale Petroskey, became the president of the Baseball Hall of Fame. The worst part of his new job was having to be a fan of all 30 teams, he once said; the best part was having a house closer to the Hall than third base was to home plate.

In 2004, the Society picked up an award that had originally been the province of individual Tigers players' fan clubs but had been abandoned for a generation: the King Tiger award. While its first incarnation had been a congeniality award, the Society instead asks members to cast their votes on the basis of both on-the-field performance and off-the field community involvement. Last year's winner was starter Matthew Boyd, who made great strides on the mound and who also (with his wife) has a foundation that protects young African girls from a life of sex slavery.

The Society had a full-season four-seat box at Tiger Stadium (and Comerica Park) from 1984 through 2019. Looks like we picked a good time to give 'em up! To compensate, we finally got professional help to create a website, www.mayosmithsociety.org. Take a look; we think you'll like it.

Today's Society has about 800 members, a plurality in Michigan and northwest Ohio, 100-plus in the D.C.-Baltimore metropolplex, and the rest scattered throughout the United States and Canada. If you'd like to join, go to the website.

Or, you can keep the U.S. Postal Service in business by sending \$25 with your name, address, phone and email address to Mayo Smith Society, PO Box 119, Northville, MI 48167.

IN MEMORIAM: Farewell to Two Chapter Friends

The Bob Davids SABR Chapter mourns the recent passing of two long-time members who made tremendous contributions to baseball in the Washington, D.C. Area.

James "Jim" R. Hartley, Dec. 23, 1948 – Aug. 17, 2020, by Mark Hornbaker

Longtime SABR Bob Davids Chapter member Jim Hartley passed away the morning of Aug. 17. Jim was the son of Ruth Pope Hartley and James Aaron Hartley. Jim leaves behind his beloved wife, Lisa Graffen-Hartley.

Jim was born into a family of baseball fanatics at Garfield Memorial Hospital in Washington -- just a few blocks from Griffith Stadium. While growing up, Senators games on the radio were as much a part of his family's summer cookouts as the hamburgers and hot dogs on the grill.

Jim honed his baseball skills in the Rockville Little Leagues and played for his high school team (Cathedral Latin in Washington) in his senior year. The coming of the Beatles combined with a distinct

lack of major league baseball talent conspired to convince Jim that he would never play baseball for his hometown Senators. He did, however, play on an adult softball team named the Senators in the early to mid-1980s.

Soon after the Senators relocated to Texas, Jim became a casual fan and turned his focus toward making a living by playing music. For more than 25 years, he played in local D.C. nightclubs and other venues up and down the East Coast. During that period, he wrote his first book, "Washington's Expansion Senators (1961-1971)."

In 1996, Tom Holster formed the Washington Baseball Historical Society (WBHS). In 2001, Tom stepped down and Jim took over the reins of the WBHS and has been publishing the quarterly newsletter, "Nats News" since October 2001. In 2005, his hopes (and those of thousands of D.C. area baseball fans) were realized when the Montreal Expos relocated to Washington, D.C.

Retired from both music and a 21-year career with Montgomery County Public Schools, Hartley is also the author of "Baseball at RFK Stadium" and "Baseball is Back: The Washington Nationals Inaugural Season."

As of this writing, there is no service planned.

Don Plavnick – 1945-2020 -- A Life Well Lived, By Paul Sekula

"He was a most peculiar man." For those of us who remember these lyrics, the subject in the song is remembered tragically. Somehow the literal sentence fits Donald (Don) Plavnick, but in a totally different way.

He was born 75 years ago, but his health started to go the wrong way just one year ago. It started with a back pain. He was too brave to take medicine to "mask the pain." Other parts of his body started to fail him; many of us are convinced that Don was too brave to disclose what other ailments he had. He was a very proud man. Eventually all of it got him, and he was reported as passing on to the next world on Aug. 24.

Don liked to needle people and at times was unduly argumentative. Yet for some reason you could not get mad at him, even if he was annoying at times. He was incredibly thoughtful and would do things for people -- always without being asked. What else? He never said anything bad about people that he knew personally.

He was a retired Marine. He was also a retired federal government employee, working as a transportation specialist. How fitting! He was a licensed private airplane pilot years ago, using the GI Bill to advance his education. He also talked about his service in Vietnam; he was very proud of that, going overseas as an 18-year-old kid to serve in a conflict that is not fondly remembered.

Don had a career in the airline industry. He was an agent for Piedmont Airlines and used the flight benefits of the job to become very well-traveled. It was not a question of "Have you ever been to Aruba, Don?" With him, it was how many times he was there. He obtained a bachelor's degree and a master's degree, somehow accomplishing that with the GI Bill while working during the day.

Don was delighted to see Washington get a baseball team again. He was an only child, born in D.C. to somewhat affluent parents and D.C. and Northern Virginia was his home to the end. He suffered through four losing National League Division Series, but the baseball gods were good to the Nationals fans in 2019, as they won four postseason series, by the skin of their ass in three of them.

Oh, well, they lost a few of their NLDS that way; we can say it "evens out". Of course, Don would debate THAT point too, but that was Don. He went to at least 10 postseason Nationals games.

Don's immediate survivors include five cousins, his life partner Liz, several Marine Corps buddies and hundreds of us SABRites and other baseball fans who knew and loved him.

**A CAPITAL PRESENCE:
"Home Run Derby" Was Heavy on Senators in 1960, By Andrew Sharp**

Home Run Derby, which I recall seeing in repeats in the early 1960s, was a syndicated TV show originally broadcast from January to July in 1960, with half-hour segments filmed in 1959 at Wrigley Field in Los Angeles. The show gave MLB's top sluggers three outs each for nine innings to see which one could hit the most balls over the fences, and was the inspiration for today's Home Run Derby at the annual All-Star game.

The contestants didn't have to swing at any pitch, but if the plate umpire (there also were two along the lines) called a strike, it counted as an out. The pitchers were supposed to throw reasonable meatballs. As bad as the late 1950s Senators were, the show often featured three American League sluggers from the team: Harmon Killebrew, Jim Lemon and Bob Allison. The show never had the Nats' Roy Sievers, the AL homer champ in 1957. (He missed significant time in 1959 with injuries.)

Killebrew appeared four times, winning twice and losing twice. He hit 23 balls over the fence, among the top figures in the series. Allison, who hit 30 homers as a rookie in 1959, appeared three times and won once, with a total of nine homers. Jim Lemon appeared twice, totaled seven homers and lost both times.

Mickey Mantle won the first four Home Run Derby shows until losing to Killebrew, 9-8, in the fourth segment. With bonuses awarded for consecutive homers, Mantle earned more than \$25,000 for those four shows in an era when player salaries were tiny compared with today. Mantle, who chose to bat right-handed all the time, had beaten Willie Mays, 9-8, in the first Home Run Derby.

The winner each week was invited back. Killebrew beat Rocky Colavito, 6-5, in the first extra-inning derby, earning \$6,000. The next week, Killebrew lost to Ken Boyer, who then lost to Hank Aaron. Aaron ran off a string of six consecutive wins, first beating Lemon, 6-4, and finishing with a 3-2 win over Allison. Aaron earned more than \$60,000 for these six shows. Wally Post finally beat Aaron. On the 18th show, Allison beat Bob Cerv, 4-3, before being routed the next week by Mays, 11-3. Mays proceeded to beat Killebrew, 7-6, and Lemon, 6-3, before losing to Gil Hodges (so many Senators connections!), 6-3, in show No. 22.

In the final Home Run Derby, Mantle reclaimed his crown by beating two-time champ Jackie Jensen (another former Nat), 13-10, the second biggest slugfest of the series. Jensen's 14-11 victory over Ernie Banks two weeks earlier was the biggest.

Mark Scott, the producer and announcer, died in July 1960 of a heart attack, and the show died with him, although it lives on in repeats on ESPN.

Wikipedia has a chart of the winner and loser from every show and how much they earned. A box set of DVDs was released in 2008, and individual shows are sometimes available for streaming.

TRIVIA ANSWER: *Earl Battey cracked 15 home runs in 1960, the last season the original Senators spent in Washington. In 1961, Gene Green hit 18 homers for the expansion Senators, but only 14 came as a catcher.*