Clowns-KC Monarchs At Stadium Sunday: Bitter Rivalry For NAL Girl Players In Focus

New York Amsterdam News (1943-1961); Jul 10, 1954;
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: New York Amsterdam News
pg. 23

Clowns-KC Monarchs At Stadium Sunday

Bitter Rivalry For NAL Girl Players In Focus

Fans from everywhere are expected to sit in at Yankee Stadium Sunday when champion Kansas City Monarchs and the famed Indianapolis Clowns tangle in their initial Negro American League doubleheader.

The Clowns, who were dethroned after three consecutive pennants when the Monarchs took the honors last year, are out to regain the top title this season. The teams will provide a combination of lady baseball, each club having a female second baseman; team clowning with individual clown acts plus top-notch baseball guaranteed to send every baseball fan home from the Stadium well pleased with the day's entertainment.

High Standard Of Play

Originally the Clowns' popularity was built on slapstick comedy, but the calibre of baseball has so improved that the Monarchs-Clown games have proven super attractions and crowd-pleasers in every major league city, and New York will be no exception.

The girls take a back seat to no one on the field either. They really play baseball and both Miss Toni Stone of the Monarchs, and Miss Connie Morgan of the Clowns, have displayed plenty of ability.

At least four Major League clubs have become interested in the Clowns' third baseman, George Wannemaker, who Manager Ossie Charleston rates as a better find than Hank Aaron, whom the Farm clubs sold to the Braves' organization. Wannemaker is leading the NAL in runs scored, base hits, total bases, doubles, triples, home runs, while batting a hefty .408.

Following the twin bill at Yankee Stadium, the Clowns-Monarchs are scheduled to clash at Philadelphia on July 12; at Washington, D.C. on the 13th; and at Lancaster, Pa., on the 14th. Following the Lancaster contest, the Clowns open a series tour with the Birmingham Black Barons, commencing at Westport Stadium, Baltimore on the 15th.

Go, Girl, Go! And she really can according to the advance reports on Miss Toni Stone (shown above) now playing second base for the Kansas City Monarchs. She was a humdinger last year while playing with the Clowns and is even greater this year. She's been making her exciting play Sunday afternoon at Yankee Stadium when her team meets her former club, the Clowns in a doubleheader, P.S. The Clowns have an answer to Miss Stone in a lady who's of their own, Connie Morgan. These girls have left the fans gaga wherever they're played and promise to give New York a new thrill Sunday afternoon.