

Triple Play Today — Triple Play in Local Club's Career

JOHNSON AND BLANDING TO CLASH IN GAME TODAY

Birmingham Denies Rumors of Dissension in Ranks—Naps Are Outplayed and Nationals Get Good Breaks.

By J. ED GRILLO.

In none of their recent games have the Nationals shown such good action as they did yesterday, when they outplayed the Birmingham club and scored a signal victory over the Naps.

The second clash of the series occurs today, and if Walter Johnson displays his usual form the chances are that a second victory will be scored by the Nationals. It is Johnson against Blanding today, according to Birmingham. Once or twice in his career Blanding has scored a victory over Johnson, and as Birmingham believes in playing hunches he will select him to work in the event.

Johnson and Blanding seem to be no doubt as to that.

Playing of the kind that the Nationals did yesterday would have beaten any team. It seems that the club has at last recovered its stride, and, if it has, it is sure to be more prominent in the race from this point than it has been. The Naps did not look so impressive. The team did not hit as was expected, and, in fact, did not display the form which would create the impression that it is in the same class with the Athletics.

With Johnson and Blanding opposing each other today a hard-fought battle is to be expected, and this is probably true of the remaining game here. For tomorrow Birmingham will have its two star pitchers, Ewell and Van Greig, to choose from, while it is likely that Joe Boehling will be sent in for the Nationals.

Rumors of dissension in the ranks of the Naps are most emphatically denied by Manager Ewing. "There is absolutely no truth in these stories," said he. "They are started by some malicious person for the purpose of affecting my team. I have had no misunderstanding with my players, and there is no dissension that I know of. It is no fair to me or my players to start these stories for they are absolutely without foundation."

Griffith made a timely catch when he pulled Mullin and sent Hughes to the table. With two out in the fourth inning, Mullin was not getting the breaks while he was at work, and he would probably have gone on to continue in the game. Hughes had one of his good days and really pitched a masterly game of ball against the hard-hitting visitors. Holding the Naps scoreless for the last five innings is not child's play, for there is not a man in the league who is not dangerous at the bat. Hughes used good judgment in working against the slugger yesterday. He was hit much harder than he has been in some time.

The present line-up of the Nationals gives the team more batting strength than it has had earlier in the season. Moeckler is generally getting the best of his stride, Foster is sure to hit in time, and from him down there are some reliable batsmen who will be counted on. Morgan and Shanks are hitting splendidly, and John Henry, too, has been going good. The hard-hitting duo of Shanks and Morgan combination which made the victory yesterday possible. It was their hitting which helped the Nationals to all their runs.

With two out Jack Leivell was sent to bat for O'Neil in the ninth, and he responded with a drive against the scoreboard which netted him a couple of bases. Ewell was sent to run, but Leivell, who had batted for Mitchell, was out on an easy roller.

That triple play put the Naps out of the running. Had O'Neil's line drive gone in, it would have been a close batch of runs in that fourth inning instead of getting only one. O'Neil hit the ball and had covered much ground on it. There were two on at the time and Tom Hughes displayed brilliant form, and prevented the visitors from scoring any more runs.

Rooster's day was a big success. There was a big crowd in the stands during the entire game, and the players seemed to respond to the encouragement which they received from the boosters. Incidentally, it was the general impression that it would add much to the game if a band was engaged for every game of the season.

Howard Shanks seems to improve with every game. Not only has he become a most timely hitter, but his fielding is nothing short of marvelous, and when it comes to backing up plays on the infield he is the equal of Tris Speaker or any of the best outfielders. Shanks is also displaying a lot of ability on the bases, his delayed start yesterday and his excellent catching O'Neil and the Naps infielders sound asleep. In the short time he has played he has shown a number of special qualities of most batsmen, and is playing his field accordingly, which has been of much help to the pitchers.

The Cleveland players have good reason for being so confident. In the game in Cleveland Sunday, when Hughes retired the Nationals in the fourth inning, he beat out a slow roller to Leiby and took second when the latter's throw was low. Mitchell then uncorked a wild pitch and Milan came all the way home from second base.

The Nationals got a flying start in yesterday's game, but failed to hold their two-run lead very long. The Naps played their best ball in the first two innings, but they were outplayed and they scored a signal victory over the Naps.

In the third score was tied on the Naps' side, and in the fourth the situation looked serious, but a great triple play put the Naps out of the running. The triple play was made by local pitcher Morgan, who hit O'Neil after making a splendid stop of his hard grounder he threw over Gandil's head. Lajoie going to second, Ryan hit sent him to third and Mullin was taken out and Hughes substituted. Morgan hit to left, scoring Lajoie, and then O'Neil hit a liner at Gandil, who touched first and then threw to McBride in time to put out Ryan, completing a triple play.

It was not until the sixth that the Nationals rallied to a score of 10 to 0. Morgan pitched a pass, Milan singled and Gandil rolled one down the third base line, filling the bases. Morgan came through with a hit which scored Foster, and Shanks followed with one which sent Milan and Gandil home. Shanks stole second, but was left when Lajoie threw out McBride.

The final run came in the eighth, when Milan beat out an infield hit and took second on Lajoie's poor throw. He scored on a wild pitch. The score:

WASH.	AB.	R.	H.	SO.	SB.	PO.	A.	E.
Morgan, p.	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Foster, 3b.	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Milan, cf.	4	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
Gandil, 1b.	4	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
McBride, 2b.	4	1	2	1	0	0	2	2
O'Neil, ss.	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
McBride, ss.	2	0	1	0	0	0	4	2
Henry, c.	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Mullin, p.	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Hughes, p.	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Totals	29	6	9	6	1	2	27	13

CLEVEL.	AB.	R.	H.	SO.	SB.	PO.	A.	E.
Turner, p.	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Turner, 3b.	4	0	1	0	0	0	4	1
Morgan, cf.	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Lajoie, 1b.	4	1	1	0	0	0	2	2
O'Neil, 2b.	4	1	0	0	0	0	2	2
McBride, 3b.	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Griffith, cf.	3	1	0	0	0	0	7	1
O'Neil, c.	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Leivell, p.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	31	5	5	3	0	0	24	10

Other American League Games

Philadelphia, June 18.—Bodie's home run into the left field bleachers saved Chicago from a shut-out by Philadelphia yesterday in the first game of the series. The score was 7 to 1.

Philadelphia..... 0 1 0 0 0 2 0 4 3-7
Chicago..... 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0-1

Two-base hits—Strunk, Oldring. Home runs—Moeckler, 1; Scott, 2; 7 runners. Sacrifice hits—Strunk, 1; Oldring, 1; Scott, 1; 1 runner. Sacrifice bunts—Strunk, 1; Oldring, 1; Scott, 1; 1 runner. Sacrifice flies—Strunk, 1; Oldring, 1; Scott, 1; 1 runner. Sacrifice bunts—Strunk, 1; Oldring, 1; Scott, 1; 1 runner. Sacrifice flies—Strunk, 1; Oldring, 1; Scott, 1; 1 runner.

Boston and Detroit Split.

BOSTON, June 18.—The Tigers made it an even split for the day by taking the afternoon game, 4 to 3, principally on timely hitting and uncertain work by Bedient.

Boston took the morning game, 7 to 4, 14, 194. Lewis to Sullivan made the first and Lewie to Ryan the second.

April 24, 1911, in an exhibition game between the Boston and Detroit teams of the Central League and Grand Rapids of the Central League. Battle Creek triple plays were rather extraordinary, but triple plays unassisted are regarded as rare. The season of 1912 was an unusual one in this respect, as four unassisted ones were made in different parts of the country. All in games of considerable importance. A peculiar feature was the fact that the four plays were pulled by four infielders, all playing a different position.

William Rapps, the first baseman of the Portland club, turned the trick against Oakland. Roy Alken, who after the first time took a triple play, performed the feat against Houston. Shortstop Foreman, in a game with Boston at Cleveland.

April 15, 1908—James Decker, first baseman of the Richmond, Pa., team, against Beaver Springs, Pa.

June 28, 1908—James O'Neil, shortstop in a game against the Moberly, Mo., club.

September 8, 1905—Slim Murch, second baseman of the Manchester team of the New England League, in a game with New Bedford club.

October 10, 1905—Harry Schlafly, second baseman of the Portland club, in a game with Seattle.

April 16, 1905—Ralph Frary of Seattle in a game with Portland.

September 6, 1902—William McGuire, first baseman of the Hoquiam team, against Tacoma.

September 8, 1902—Frank Bustace, third baseman of the Pottsville team, against the Elmira, N. Y., club.

August 18, 1902—Harry O'Hagan, first baseman of the Rochester team of the Eastern League, in a game with Jersey City.

STANDING OF CLUBS.

W.	L.	Pct.
A. S. & T.	10 3	.769
Cornell	13 4	.764
War.	A. C.	11
O'Connell	11 11	.683

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS.

Cornell, 9; War., 5.
Today's Game.
Bankers vs. Waverly.

Browns Defeat Yankees.

NEW YORK, June 18.—St. Louis hit four New York pitchers for twelve hits, aggregating twenty bases, and defeated the locals in the first game of the series yesterday, 7 to 4.

Wallace was hit on the head by a pitch in the fourth inning, and in the eighth inning and had to retire. Score: Browns..... 7 0 0 0 0 3 0 0 1-7
Yankees..... 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0-4

LIBEL ON POLO NIPPED IN BUD

NEW YORK, June 18.—Capt. Miller, manager of the invading polo team of Great Britain and one of the umpires in the international polo match, was today the subject of a libel suit filed by the American forces last week, said yesterday that he blew the whistle and caused the penalty of half a goal against Capt. Looket for crossing the line.

DEPARTMENTAL LEAGUE

STANDING OF THE CLUBS.

W.	L.	Pct.
Interior	5 1	.833
Post Office	5 2	.714
Interstate	4 3	.571
Washington	3 4	.429

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Aggies, 7; War., 5.
Today's Game.
Interstate vs. Post Office

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEAGUE.

Charleston, 5; Jacksonville, 3.
Columbus, 2; Macon, 3; Albany, 6.

BOOSTERS IN ACTION WHEN TRIPLE PLAY WAS MADE



NATIONALS NEVER FIGURED IN TRIPLE PLAY BEFORE

Feat of Gandil and McBride Stands Out in Club's History—Interesting Dope on Rare Feature of Game.

By J. ED GRILLO.

When Gandil and McBride made a triple play against Cleveland yesterday they established a record for the local club, it being the first time in the history of base ball in this city that a team representing the nation's capital has ever made this remarkable play.

The only other time that a Washington team has ever figured in such a play was July 12, 1902, when Baltimore pulled the play in this city, in which the following players took part: Williams to Gilbert to Kelley.

The play yesterday came with first and second occupied, none out and O'Neil at the bat. The latter hit a sharp line to right at Gandil, who after catching the ball, threw to McBride, who touched first and retired Graney, who had left that bag, and then threw to McBride, covering second, and nailed O'Neil, completing the triple play.

Any time a triple play is made in a ball game it receives more than ordinary attention in the description of the contest.

When two triple plays are made in the same game it is regarded as an extraordinary happening. In only three instances has such a thing happened.

The first time two triple plays were made happened April 23, 1903, in a game between Butte and Los Angeles of the Federal League. Red Kelly to Hollingsworth to Messery completed the first play and Kelly to Messery completed the second play. The third time the feat was turned had Kansas City and Toledo as the contending teams. The date was June 14, 1904. Lewie to Sullivan made the first and Lewie to Ryan the second.

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AMERICAN LEAGUE.

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Athletics	41	12	.774	778	759
Cleveland	36	20	.643	649	632
Nationals	30	25	.545	554	538
Chicago	30	27	.524	534	517
Boston	27	26	.510	519	500
Detroit	24	35	.407	417	400
St. Louis	22	39	.361	371	355
New York	13	39	.250	264	245

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YESTERDAY'S RESULTS.

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

Washington, 6; Cleveland, 3.
Philadelphia, 7; Chicago, 1.
St. Louis, 7; New York, 4.
Boston, 7; Detroit, 4.
Detroit, 4; Boston, 3.

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DETROIT FAILS TO GET PLAYERS

STOCKTON, Cal., June 18.—James McQuire, scout for the Detroit American League team, yesterday failed in an attempt to induce the Stockton team of the California League to part with Shortstop Butler and Outfielder Wilcox. McQuire offered \$8,500 for the two players.

COTTON STATES LEAGUE.

Jackson, 5; Pensacola, 4.
Sarasota, 3; Tallahassee, 2.
Columbus, 13; Oklawaha, 4.