

THE GLASHOUSE GANG



TUESDAY, October 9, 1934, dawned cool and brisk in Detroit, Mich. This was it, **Game 7** of the 1934 World Series: St. Louis Cardinals vs. Detroit Tigers. There were 45,551 fans—the biggest in the series—all ready to cheer on the championship to its close.

I remember the tension of the day. Heck, by Game 7 everybody was mad at everybody. And you can trust Ol' Diz when I say that everybody was real mad at the **umps**. We was all expecting fireworks.

This matchup finally brought together two of the most dynamite performers to ever stand astride the pitching mound.



Tigers was startin' Mr. Elden Auker, but he jes' wouldn't do, and I told him so, too, right as we was warmin' up before the game. And boy, Diz was right. Auker went and got himself yanked in the third inning and Detroit manager, Mickey Cochrane, went ahead and put in Schoolboy Rowe.

And, 'course, that other dynamite pitcher would be me.

I started that game for the Cardinals, and I intended to bring it on home. My ball club was right helpful in that mission, too, everyone playing real tops.

By the sixth inning, the score was 9-0, with the Cards in the lead. That's when our own Joe Medwick went sliding hard into third. Tiger baseman Marv Owen raised his foot to get outta Joe's way and brought it down on top of Medwick's leg, causing him to fall right on top of him. Well, Joe got real mad and kicked Owen, and before we all knew it, the two was tusslin' in the dirt like two rowdy pigs in a row. Ump had to go break 'em up, and afterward, Medwick offered Owen his hand to shake in an apology. Trouble was, the whole bit turned out to be a big misunderstanding between Joe and the

crowd. All them Detroit fans was thinking Joe's handshake were just an invitation for more fighting. As we Cards took the field in the bottom of the sixth and Joe Medwick trotted on out to left field, them Tiger fans—17,000 alone packed into the bleachers—

began to rain down upon the poor feller with all sorts of loot. Oranges, bananas, tomatoes, potatoes, lemons, apples, cigar stubs, empty soda bottles—you name it they threw it at 'em. Heck, I swear those Tiger fans musta had a whole fruit stand below their seats supplyin' them with ammo! The ballpark attendants had to clear that field four times, and they still refused to quit the bombardment! It was all the umps could do to keep us

players from clearing the benches.

My buddy, Joe, though, he's got a good sense of humor on him. He just went ahead and picked up one of them apples and started to play a game of catch with Pepper Martin and Ernie Orsatti. Me? I minded my own business, occasionally throwin' a few warm-up pitches. Ain't none of that business gonna bother Ol' Diz. I figured, best way to teach them Tiger fans a lesson was to win!

Medwick eventually had to be escorted from the field by five policemen. Right shame that was, seeing as the ol' boy did nothin' real wrong. You see, Medwick had 11 hits during that series. Without another time at bat, he lost his chance to tie the World Series record of 12 hits. Boy, we was all mad about that!

The Cardinals was already winning 9-0, but we took our rage out on them Tigers and didn't even try to hold back! Seventeen hits flew from Cardinal bats that afternoon. And I was hammering those pitches right past them batters like nothin' anybody'd ever seen. Fact, I struck out Hank Greenberg in only four pitches, and on that very last pitch I didn't even bother watching the ball cross the plate—I just turned right around and laughed. Ain't no sweeter sound to a pitcher's ear than a bat swishing clean through the air.

Final batter happened to be Owen. With a 2-1 count, Owen hit to Durocher who tossed that ball on over to Frisch forcing Rogell out at second.


The victory was ours! With a mighty score of 11-0 the Cardinals won their third World Series championship!


It was a spectacular game. I told them press people that I let the Tigers get a couple of hits before I decided to stop fooling around and pound those strikes past 'em. And you know what them papers said about us? They said that we Cardinals was "the most astonishing ball club of modern times," and that this was "the most exciting championship in at least twenty years."

And ya know what? I couldn't agree more.




EXTRA INNINGS!

 Dizzy Dean often mentions interviews with reporters. Reporters have to be creative with dialogue tags instead of overusing the word, "said." Use the newspaper to list the different ways reporters have of saying "said."

 In this story, abbreviations show Dizzy Dean's speaking voice. In the newspaper, abbreviations are often used in advertisements that charge per character—such as ads for cars, housing, etc. Use the newspaper to find five abbreviations and list their meanings.

Learning Standards: I can identify word choice.

POP UPS

 **GAME 7:** Baseball teams play best out of seven during the World Series. If a team wins four games in a row the series is over and it is considered a "sweep." The first team to win four games wins the championship. Seven is the maximum number of games in the series, therefore, if the World Series goes to a Game 7, it is always the last game and the winner is the champion.

UMP is short for umpire—the referees of the baseball world.