

# Bobby Del Greco, "Pittsburgh Born & Bred"

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Bobby Del Greco

An excellent fielding outfielder who plays 17 seasons in professional baseball, Robert George "Bobby" Del Greco is one of the first players from the highly-touted Pittsburgh Pirates farm system of the early 1950's to make it to the major leagues.

A native of Pittsburgh's Hill District, Del Greco plays nine major league seasons with six different teams – Pittsburgh Pirates (1952, 1956), St. Louis Cardinals (1956), Chicago Cubs (1957), New York Yankees (1957-1958), Philadelphia Phillies (1960-61, 1965) and the Kansas City Athletics (1962-1963).

Prior to the start of the 1950 season, Pittsburgh Hall of Famer and scout Pie Traynor finds the 17-year-old Del Greco on the sandlots of Pittsburgh and signs him for \$500. Less than two years later, Del Greco will start in center field for his hometown Pirates before he turns 19 years old.

As a 19-year-old rookie and the National League's third-youngest player that season, Del Greco makes his major league debut on April 16, 1952, going 3-for-4 with a triple in a 6-to-5 loss to the St. Louis Cardinals. Two days later, he again goes 3-for-4 with another triple in his first-ever game at the Pirates' Forbes Field.

On June 9, 1952, Del Greco hits his first major league home run off of Milwaukee starter Jim Wilson in the sixth inning of a 3-to-2 loss to the Braves and becomes one of only 88 players, from 1900 to 2000, to hit a home run in the major leagues prior to his 20th birthday.

Following his rookie season of 1952, he is sent to the minors and does not appear in a major league uniform again until 1956, when he makes the Pirates' opening day roster.

Del Greco is on the regular season roster of New York Yankees teams that capture the American League pennant in 1957 and 1958. He plays in 20 games for the Yankees in those two seasons, hitting .333 (4-for-12) but never plays in the World Series.

In 1962, while playing with the Kansas City Athletics, Del Greco leads the American League in being hit by a pitch 13 times. His best offensive season comes in 1960 with the Philadelphia Phillies, when he hits .237 with a career-high 10 home runs and 26 RBIs.

## More of Pittsburgh's Kindergarten Kids



**THE PIRATES** continued to emphasize their youth movement as they swung into the race, signing seven of their young phenoms, who had been under contract with their minor league affiliates, on the eve of the opener at St. Louis. Only two of the rookies, however, saw action in the lidlifter, Dick Hall playing third base in his first professional game and Brandy Davis drawing a walk as a pinch-hitter. Shown at the inking ceremonies, left to right, front row, are Hall, General Manager Branch Rickey and Ronnie Kline; back row—Davis, Jim Waugh, Ed Wolfe, Lee Walls and Bob Del Greco. An eighth rookie, First Baseman Tony Bartirome of Pittsburgh, was called up from Charleston, S. C., of the Sally League on April 16.

## Bobby Del Greco [2 of 13]:

The 32-year-old Del Greco concludes his nine-year major league career with the Phillies in 1965. His career totals total 95 doubles, 11 triples, 42 home runs, 169 RBIs and a career batting average of .229. Interestingly enough, Del Greco fashions a career batting mark of .317 (40-for-126) when he hit third, fourth or fifth in the lineup.

In 12 minor league seasons with 12 different teams and eight major league organizations, Del Greco has a .269 batting average with 258 doubles, 50 triples and 107 home runs. In 1955, he hits .287 with 13 home runs and a career-high 73 RBIs with the Hollywood Stars of the Pacific Coast League. In 1959, playing for the Buffalo Bisons of the International (AAA) League, the 26-year-old Del Greco reaches career-highs with 48 doubles and 21 home runs while hitting .286.



**Bobby Del Greco**  
1952 Pittsburgh Pirates

### *Mom and 12 Kinfolk See Bobby Del Greco Shine*

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Bobby Del Greco, 19-year-old outfielder, made an auspicious home-town debut, April 18, when he socked a triple and two singles for the Pirates in their Forbes Field opener against the Reds.

Bobby's mother and 12 other relatives, including four brothers and four sisters, were in the stands for the occasion, along with hundreds of others who had seen Del Greco

play semi-pro ball in Pittsburgh.

He was asked if it bothered him to face Ewell Blackwell of the Reds.

"Sure, I was a little nervous the first time at the plate," said the youngster. "Then I got a single. Boy! I felt good all over. I had confidence and the rest of the game was just like any other game."

Del Greco quit high school in his second year to help support his large family. He attracted the at-

tention of Pie Traynor, Pirate scout, who signed Bobby for a \$600 bonus in 1949. The youngster was with Salisbury (North Carolina State) in 1950 and Hutchinson (Western Association) last year, being given a Pirate contract shortly before this season opened.

Bobby hopes to "make some money for my mother," adding, "I'm going to build a new house for her, you can bet on that."

## DEL GRECO CHRONOLOGY

### July 11, 1950

The 17-year-old Del Greco has three hits in four at bats, including a home run and drives in five runs to lead the Salisbury Pirates to a 12-to-6 win over the Statesville Spinners in a North Carolina State (D) League contest ... Del Greco finishes his rookie campaign hitting .251 with six doubles, three triples and three home runs.

### December 3, 1951

The Pittsburgh Pirates announce that three Pittsburgh-area teenagers – 18-year-old Bobby Del Greco, 19-year-old Tony Bartirome and 18-year-old right-handed pitcher Jack Brown - have been invited to the team's spring training camp at San Bernardino, California ... Del Greco and Bartirome, both products of Pittsburgh sandlot teams, will be assigned to the Hutchinson Elks in the Western (C) League ... Del Greco hits .302 with league-leading 37 doubles, six triples and four home runs while Bartirome hits .282 with 17 doubles, eight triples and five home runs ... Brown is 4-10 with a 4.39 ERA for the Salisbury (N.C.) Pirates of the North Carolina State (D) League.

Both Del Greco and Bartirome will eventually make it the major leagues, while Brown will pitch eight seasons (1951-1959) with 13 minor league teams, finishing with a 50-59 mark.

### January 14, 1952

Pittsburgh general manager Branch Rickey announces that the Pirates have a "find" in 18-year-old center-fielder Bobby Del Greco, a Pittsburgh native who has spent the past two seasons in the vast 15-team Pirate farm system. The burly Del Greco impresses the Buc management with his power at the plate and his strong arm and is labeled "another Carl Furillo."

"This boy is the best center field candidate in the Pittsburgh" organization including the Pirates, too," is the praise Rickey heaps upon him despite the fact Del Greco is not listed on the pre-season Pirate roster.



## Bobby Del Greco [3 of 13]:

March 8, 1952

Bill Meyer, beginning his fifth and final season as the Bucs' field manager, announces that he will use five rookies in the lineup when the Pirates and St. Louis Browns open the 1952 exhibition season at Burbank, California ... Dick Hall, a student at Swarthmore College, will play first base, Lee Walls, who played at Modesto in the Class C California League, will start at third base and Del Greco will patrol center field ... 18-year-old Jim Waugh and 20-year-old Ron Kline will handle the pitching.

April 16, 1952 ▶▶

Making his major league debut in the Pirates' second game of the season, Del Greco, starting in center field and batting third in the lineup (just ahead of future Hall of Famer Ralph Kiner), goes 3-for-4, including the first of 11 career

triples in a 6-to-5

loss to the St. Louis Cardinals before 4,324 at Sportsman Park ... the 19-year-

old (by nine days) also draws a walk and handles his only fielding opportunity flawlessly.

## Wilson 3-2 Victor

PITTSBURGH, June 9 (AP)—Big Jim Wilson hurled the Boston Braves to a 3-2 win over the Pittsburgh Pirates tonight, giving up only five hits.

It was Wilson's fourth win of the campaign and the sixth in 11 starts for the Braves since Charley Grimm took over the managerial post May 31, succeeding Tommy Holmes.

Buc Manager Billy Meyer was ejected from the game in the sixth frame for protesting that a drive by Ralph Kiner which struck the left field screen was fair.

Bobby Del Greco, rookie Buc outfielder, smashed his first major league home run in the sixth Score:

Boston					Pittsburgh				
	AB	H	O	A		AB	H	O	A
Jethroe, cf	2	2	1	0	Castiglione, 3b	3	0	0	1
Thoupe, rf, lf	3	1	1	0	Del Greco, cf	3	1	0	1
Matthews, 3b	3	1	1	0	Beil, rf	3	2	3	0
Gordon, lf	3	1	2	0	Kiner, lf	3	0	2	0
Daniels, rf	1	0	0	0	Garagiola, c	4	2	2	1
St. Claire, c	3	0	5	1	Merson, 2b	4	0	6	4
Torreson, 1b	2	1	7	2	Smith, ss	3	0	1	4
Hartsfield, 2b	3	1	3	0	Bartrome, 1b	4	0	12	3
Logan, ss	4	0	3	4	Friend, p	1	0	1	0
Wilson, p	4	0	3	3	Hatfield, p	0	0	0	0
					Main, p	0	0	0	0
					Metkovich, p	1	0	0	0

Totals 29 6 27 10  
 aStruck out for Friend in 7th.  
 bFouled out for Main in 9th.

R. H. E.  
 Boston ..... 020 000 100—3 6 1  
 Pittsburgh ..... 000 001 010—2 5 0  
 R—Jethroe, Torreson, Hartsfield, Del Greco, 2. E—Hartsfield. RBI—Thoupe, 2. Del Greco, Gordon, Garagiola. HR—Del Greco. SB—Jethroe, S—Friend, Thorpe, 2. Hartsfield. DDP—Smith to Merson to Bartrome, Logan to Torreson, St. Claire to Hartsfield. LOB—Braves 10, Pittsburgh 7. BB—Friend 5, Wilson 5, Main 2. SO—Wilson 5, Friend 1, Main 1. HO—Friend 6 in 7, Main 0 in 2. R & ER—Friend 3-3, Main 0-0. Wilson 2-2. HBP—Friend. Jethroe, PB—Garagiola. Winner—Wilson (4-5). Loser—Friend (3-7). U—Jordan. Boggs, Pinelli, Enchin. T—2:31. Att.—6,973.

Bobby Del Greco Major League Debut  
 April 16, 1952, Sportsman Park, St. Louis, Missouri

# Cards Subdue Bucs

ST. LOUIS, April 16 (AP)—The St. Louis Cardinals exploded for five runs with two out in the seventh inning tonight to defeat former teammate Howard Pollet and the Pittsburgh Pirates, 6-5. Stan Musial led the Redbirds to their second straight victory with a home run and a double, driving in three runs.

The five-run outburst looked to be a seemingly safe margin for the Cards, but by game's end it proved to be barely enough for victory

Once again it was veteran Al Brazle who safeguarded the triumph for the Cardinals. During Tuesday night's season opener he came to the mound in relief to protect a 3-2 St. Louis victory.

Tonight he took over for youngster Dick Bokelmann, who entered the game in the eighth and ran into quick trouble, uncorking a wild pitch that scored

a run after the Bucs had sandwiched a walk between doubles by Jack Merson and Pinch-Hitter Bill Howerton. Score:

Pittsburgh					St. Louis				
	AB	H	O	A		AB	H	O	A
Davis, rf	4	2	2	0	Hemus, ss	3	1	3	4
Bell, rf	1	0	0	0	Sch'nd'nst, 2b	4	2	3	4
McViech, 1b	4	0	12	1	Musial, lf	4	2	1	0
Del Greco, cf	4	3	1	0	Westlake, cf	2	1	1	0
Kiner, lf	5	2	2	0	Slaughter, rf	4	0	1	0
Hall, 3b	5	2	2	2	Bjork, 1b	4	0	10	2
Merson, 2b	5	2	2	2	Johnson, 3b	3	2	1	3
Koshorek, ss	3	1	1	4	Claviano	0	0	0	0
McCull'ah	1	0	0	0	Fusselman, c	1	1	0	0
Mangan, c	3	1	2	1	D. Rice, c	3	1	6	1
Garagiola, c	0	0	0	0	Kazak, 3b	1	0	1	1
Pollet, p	3	0	1	2	Chambers, p	1	0	1	0
Bucheck, p	0	0	0	0	Lowrey	1	0	0	0
Howerton	1	1	0	0	Bokelmann, p	0	0	1	0
Main, p	0	0	0	0	Brazle, p	0	0	0	0

Totals 37 13 24 13  
 aRan for Johnson in seventh.  
 bPopped out for Chambers in seventh.  
 cAwarded first on catcher's interference.  
 dWalked for Mangan in eighth.  
 eFiled out for Koshorek in ninth.

R. H. E.  
 Pittsburgh ..... 000 002 021—5 13 1  
 St. Louis ..... 100 000 50x—6 10 2

R—Del Greco, Kiner, Hall, Merson, Garagiola, Hemus 2, Schoendienst, Musial, Claviano, Kazak. E—Johnson, Chambers, Mangan, RBI—Musial 3, Merson, Mangan, Hemus, Schoendienst 2, Howerton, Hall, 2BH—Musial, Hemus, Schoendienst, Merson, Howerton, Kiner, 3BB—Del Greco. HR—Musial. DP—Hemus to Bjork; Koshorek to Merson to Metkovich. LOB—Pittsburgh 11, St. Louis 5. BB—Chambers 3, Pollet 2, Bokelmann 2. SO—Chambers 5, Pollet 1. Winner—Chambers (1-0), loser—Pollet (0-1). U—Barlick, Gorman. Donsalek, Balianfant. T—1:21. Att.—4524.

With his home run against the Braves on June 9, 1952, Del Greco becomes one of 88 players from 1900 to 2000 who hits his first major league home run before their 20th birthday ... 14 are members of the Hall of Fame and four — Jimmie Fox, Harmon Killebrew, Mickey Mantle and Mell Ott — go on to hit 500-or-more lifetime home runs.

April 18, 1952

Two days later, before 29,874 Forbes Field fans in the Pirates' home opener against Cincinnati, Del Greco, making his third-straight start, goes 3-for-4 again, including a single and a triple against Reds' starter Ewell Blackwell in a 3-0 five-hit shutout complete game victory by 21-year-old Buc right-hander Bob Friend ... at the end of the day, the Pirates are 2-2 and Del Greco is batting .500 on the year (6-for-12) with a pair of triples, two walks and two runs scored.

April 20, 1952

Del Greco goes 1-for-4 and drives in his first two career RBIs in an 8-6 loss to the Cincinnati Reds in the first game of a doubleheader.

◀◀ June 9, 1952

Del Greco hits the first of his 42 career home runs in a 3-to-2 loss to the Boston Braves ... Del Greco drives a Jim Wilson pitch over the left-center field wall in the bottom of the sixth inning ... Wilson (4-5) pitches a five-hit complete game and outduels Pirate starter Bob Friend (3-7) before 6,973 in Forbes Field ... the loss drops the Corsairs record to a dismal 12-40.

## Bobby Del Greco [4 of 13]:

### August 13, 1952

Two days after going 2-for-4 with a double in a 10-to-4 loss to Cincinnati, Pittsburgh general manager Branch Rickey announces that Del Greco is being optioned to the Toronto Maple Leafs of the International (AAA) League with the provision that he will report back to the Pirates on September 17 ... Pirate management notes that Del Greco is being sent to the minor leagues for a "brief period" to make room for several new players, who have been called up, and at the same time to keep their rookie outfielder "busy" and not sitting on bench ... Del Greco is hitting .207 at the time of the transaction.

### September 3, 1952

Pittsburgh exercises its options for the 1953 season on 11 players in their farm system, including Hollywood Stars pitcher Paul Pettit, baseball's first \$100,000 "bonus baby" ... Pettit totals 945 strikeouts in 549 innings while playing in high school, American Legion and semipro leagues, and is credited with six no-hitters, including three in a row ... in addition to Pettit, who has a 15-5 record for the Stars, options are exercised on pitchers Paul LaPalme, 2-0, and Joe Muir, 2-2, and catcher Jim Mangan, who is batting .317.

Chosen from New Orleans of the Southern Association are outfielder Frank Thomas, batting .300, with 31 home runs; infielder Dick Smith, .278; and pitchers Lennie Yochim, 11-5, and Ed Wolfe, 12-11 ... Del Greco and pitcher Harry Fisher are selected from Toronto roster while pitcher Don Carlsen from Denver of the Western League is also named.



## Two Kids Wouldn't Be Fenced Out

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — The one thing that flashed through the mind of Tony Bartirome as he stood on first base one day at Forbes Field during infield practice was that just seven years ago he and his boyhood pal, Outfielder



Tony Bartirome

Bobby Del Greco, often climbed the fences and sneaked into this same park to see the Pirates. Now they were getting paid by the owners.

"Many a day Bobby and I waited until the game started and then climbed the wall in left field and raced for the bleachers," 19-year-old Tony remarked.

"I remember one day we paid to get in and sat in the third tier near the old radio booth. We were rooting so loud for the Pirates that Jack Craddock, then doing the

broadcasting with Rosey Rowswell, had to make us quiet down."

Del Greco has been with the Pirates all spring, but Bartirome spent three weeks with the Bucs, then was shipped to the Charleston (Sally) club without playing an inning for the Pittsburgh varsity.

The night before Charleston opened the season, Manager Frank Ocek awakened Tony at 1 a. m.

"Did you send any laundry out?" Ocek asked.

"That's a funny question to ask a fellow at 1 o'clock in the morning," Tony said he thought to himself. "Then immediately I had visions of being sent to Class D.

"Before I had a chance to reply, Ocek told me he had good news. I was to join the Pirates immediately. I never did get to sleep."

Bartirome says his father, Dee, was once rated one of the best softball third basemen in the Pittsburgh district.

"My dad was fast and even today he says he can beat me," Tony added.

LES BIEDERMAN.

### September 18, 1952

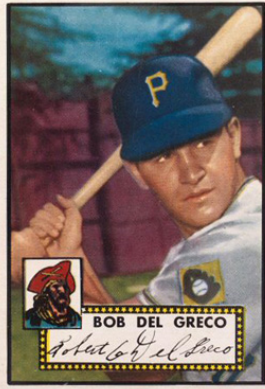
The Pirates recall Del Greco from the Toronto Maple Leafs of the International (AAA) League, where he is hitting .311 (19-for-61) ... to make room for Del Greco, the Bucs waive 35-year-old infielder Johnny Berardino ... Berardino, an 11-year major league veteran, has only eight hits in 56 at bats (.143) for the Pirates since being acquired, along with 32-year-old career minor league pitcher Charlie Sipple and \$50,000, from the Cleveland Indians for 26-year-old infielder George Strickland and 36-year-old pitcher Ted Wilks.

### September 27 & 28, 1952

Del Greco finishes his rookie campaign on a tear picking up five hits in seven at bats, with two doubles and a stolen base in the final two games of the season against the Cincinnati Reds ... the two-game spree raise his batting average 14 points and he finishes his rookie season hitting .217 with 14 doubles, two triples, one home run, 20 RBIs and a team-high 11 outfield assists.



## Bobby Del Greco [5 of 13]:



Del Greco's 1952 Topps rookie card ... card No. 353 of a 550 card set can be bought for \$15 in near-mint condition.

The youthful Pirates finish 1952 last place in the National League with a 42-112 (.273) mark - the second-worst record in franchise history and 54 1/2 games behind first-place Brooklyn and 22 1/2 games behind the seventh-place Boston Braves ... 12 rookies see service for the Bucs in 1952 - Del Greco, shortstop Dick Groat, outfielder Brandy Davis, first basemen Tony Bartirome and Dick Hall, infielders Lee Walls and Sonny Senerchia, and Pitchers Cal Hogue, Ron Necciai, Bill (Bomber) Bell, Jim Waugh and Red Dunn.

### April 7, 1953

One week prior the 1953 season opener, Del Greco, the Pirates' starting center fielder for much of the previous season, and 32-year-old catcher Joe Rossi are optioned to the International League's Toronto Maple Leafs ... first-year Pittsburgh manager Fred Haney indicates that rookies Carlos Bernier and Felipe Montemayor will share center field duties for the Bucs in the upcoming season.

The 26-year-old Bernier responds by hitting an anemic .213 with a team-high 15 stolen bases in his only season at the major league level ... the 25-year Montemayor, who had been purchased from the Mexicali Eagles for \$20,000 in March of 1951, will hit .109 with 13 strikeouts in 62 plate appearances before being sent back down to the minors in mid-June.

### August 5, 1953

Cellar-dwelling Pittsburgh (35 games behind front-running Brooklyn) recalls 16 players from its' various minor league affiliates ... seven players will report to the parent club within the next seven days, while the others will report to the Pirates' new training site at Fort Pierce, Fla., next spring.

Those joining the Bucs for the remainder of the seasons are catcher Pete Naton, Charleston, of the South Atlantic league; catcher Jack Shepard, Denver in the Western league; outfielder Dick Hall, New Orleans in the Southern Association; infielder Dick Smith, New Orleans; Cal Hogue, Oklahoma City in the Texas league; outfielder Brandy Davis, New Orleans, infielder and George Freese, Springfield of the International league.

Told to report the following spring are Al Grumvald, first baseman; Felipe Montemayor, outfielder, Gail Henley, outfielder; Bill Hall, catcher; and Ed Wolfe, pitcher, all from New Orleans; Bobby Del Greco, outfielder, and Joe Rossi, catcher from Toronto in the International league, and Sonny Senerchia, infielder, and Bill Dunn, pitcher, Burlington, of the Carolina league.

## Pirates Drop Ron Necciai

PITTSBURGH (AP)—The Pittsburgh Pirates released pitcher Ron Necciai outright Monday night to Waco, Tex., of the Big State league and optioned two other players to New Orleans of the Southern association.

Necciai attracted nationwide attention in 1951 as a strikeout artist with minor league clubs. He joined the Pirates late in 1951, then was drafted into the army in 1952. He has been suffering from a stomach ailment since being discharged from the army last season.

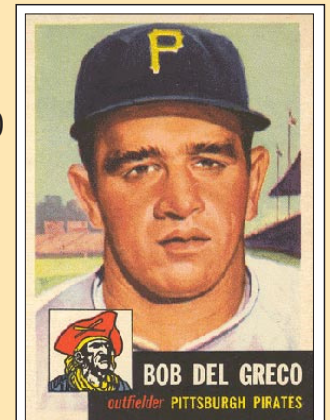
Sent to New Orleans were outfielders Bob Del Greco and Felipe Montemayor.

### November 12, 1953

The Pirates announce that Del Greco is en route to Mazatlan, Mexico, to play winter baseball in the Mexican Pacific Coast League with four other players from the Pittsburgh organization ... Del Greco, who hit .241 for the Toronto Maple Leafs of the International League last season, leaves immediately after receiving permission to play from team president Branch Rickey Jr. ... Pirate farmhands already in Mexico are infielder Dick Hall, outfielder Felipe Montemayor, catcher Bill Hall and pitcher Dick Drilling of Waco.

### ◀◀ December 28, 1953

Pitcher Ron Necciai, the minor league strikeout sensation of 1951, and outfielders Bobby Del Greco and Felipe Montemayor are released from Pittsburgh's major league roster ... Necciai is released outright to the Waco Pirates in the Big State (B) League while Del Greco and Montemayor are optioned to the New Orleans Pelicans in the Southern (AA) Association.



Coming off his rookie season where he hits .217 in 99 games, Del Greco's 1953 Topps card (#48) is worth \$12 in near-mint condition.

## **Bobby Del Greco [6 of 13]:**

### **January 26, 1954**

The Pirates announce that Del Greco will be given a tryout as an infielder when the players report for the team's spring training at Fort Pierce, Florida, on Feb. 15 ... Del Greco is currently the property of the Pirates' Class AA New Orleans farm club in the Southern Association.

### **March 16, 1954**

Del Greco is one of five players that the Pittsburgh Pirates send to their minor league training camp at Huntsville, Texas ... in addition to the 21-year-old Del Greco, the Pirates farm out outfielder Sam Hill, infielders Gene Freese and Al Grunwald and pitcher Ron Necciai.

### **July 28, 1954**

The Williamsport Grays of the Eastern (A) League snap a five-game losing streak sweeping a doubleheader from the Allentown Redbirds 7-1 and 18-4 ... optioned to the Grays by New Orleans the day before, and arriving only 30 minutes prior to the first game, Del Greco goes 1-for-8 in the twin bill ... Williamsport's 17-year-old shortstop Bill Mazerowski goes 2-for-5 with one RBI in the two games.

### **August 13, 1954**

With Carlos Bernier suspended for remainder of the season after the volatile outfielder slaps umpire Chris Valenti, the Hollywood Stars' special "emergency" request to recall outfielder Bobby Del Greco from Williamsport receives approval from the Executive Committee of the National Association ... the "emergency measure" is opposed by the San Diego Padres on grounds that Bernier's suspension does not permit such an action and that organized baseball rules state that a player cannot be recalled after August 1, except in an emergency created by the loss of a player which will last for more than 15 days ... rules also call for approval by all clubs in both leagues involved and when San Diego declines approval, President George Trautman of the National Association submits the case to the executive committee.

**Before reporting to the Stars, Del Greco stops off in Pittsburgh to visit his wife and their new baby before reporting.**

### **May 6, 1954**

Last-place Hollywood wins its third-straight game with a 4-to-1 win over the Los Angeles Angels, but Bobby Del Greco's team-record 21-game hitting streak is stopped by the combined efforts of Jim Walsh and Maurice Fisher.

### **May 10, 1954**

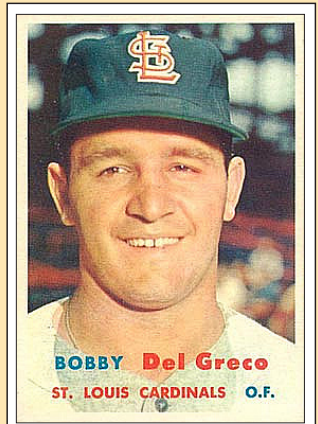
It is reported in the *Long Beach Star-Telegram* that Hollywood Stars manager Bobby Bragan is looking to keep Bobby Del Greco in the outfield, but the Pittsburgh Pirate management wants to give Del Greco a longer look at the hot corner where, he has been "a pleasant surprise".

### **June 5, 1954**

Del Greco is named to the Pacific Coast All-Star team ... eight days later, Del Greco has a single and two RBIs in the All-Stars' 7-to-4 win over the San Diego Padres.

### **July 1, 1955**

Hollywood center fielder Bobby Del Greco starts a triple play when he makes a sensational catch of Harry Bright's low line drive in the eighth inning ... tumbling as he snares the ball, Del Greco recovers quickly and fires to Curt Roberts at second to double up Tommy Glaviano ... Roberts' relay to first baseman Curt Stevens was in time to nail Nippy Jones for the third out of a rare outfield-initiated triple play ... Glaviano and Jones had opened the innings with back-to-back singles.



Del Greco completes his first full major league season hitting .217 with seven home runs ... his 1957 Topps card (# 94) is worth \$12 in near-mint condition.

## Bobby Del Greco [7 of 13]:

### October 17, 1955

The Hollywood Stars announce that Del Greco has been sold back to the Pittsburgh Pirates ... in the same deal, the Stars acquire outfielder Felipe Montemayor and an undetermined amount of cash ... Del Greco, noted for his defensive ability, hit .287 for the Stars during the past season.

### December 25, 1955

It is announced that Del Greco has established a new Pacific Coast League record by being hit by a pitch 20 times in 1955.

### March 8, 1956

Outfielders Roberto Clemente and Bobby Del Greco and catcher Jack Shepard come in for special praise from Pittsburgh hitting instructor George Sisler ... "Del Greco has improved if only for one thing. He isn't taking as many pitches. He's swinging the bat now."

### April 3, 1956

Pittsburgh manager Bobby Bragan says that Del Greco's defensive ability may win him the center field job for the Pirates ... Bragan also says that he hasn't counted out 21-year-old Roberto Clemente for the center field spot ... Clemente is hitting well above .300 in the spring exhibition games, while Del Greco is hovering around the .200 mark.

### April 16, 1956

The Pirates open the 1956 season with Del Greco starting in center field and batting seventh against the New York Giants ... in his first major league game since Sept. 28, 1952, the 23-year-old Del Greco goes 1-for-3 with a stolen base against Giant lefty Johnny Antonelli, but New York prevails 4-to-3 before 12,790 at the Polo Grounds.

### May 13, 1956

Pirate third baseman Bobby Del Greco goes 3-for-7 and has the only two-home run game of his career as the Pirates split a doubleheader with the Philadelphia Phillies in Forbes Field... in the first game, Del Greco blasts a pair of solo home runs off of Cardinal left Harvey Haddix in the first and fifth innings in an 11-9 Buc win ... Del Greco will hit four home runs off of Haddix in his major league career, two more than any other pitcher.

### May 16, 1956 (Frank Lane I) ►

Del Greco is batting an even .200 (4-for-20) with two home runs and three RBIs, when the Pirates announce that he and pitcher Dick Littlefield (0-0; 4.26) have been traded to the St. Louis Cardinals for outfielder Bill Virdon (2-0-2; .211) ... in addition, the Pirates get down to the league's required player limit by optioning pitchers Bill Purkey, Bob Garber and Joe Trimble to Hollywood.

The 25-year-old Virdon, named the National League Rookie of the Year in the 1955 after hitting .281 with 17 home runs and driving in 68 runs, is batting only .206 for the Cardinals ... for Littlefield who originally came to Pittsburgh in a waiver transaction for Cal Abrams two years earlier, the trade to the Cardinals marks his seventh different major league team in his seven seasons in the major leagues ... the 30-year-old left-hander will pitch in only three games for Fred Hutchinson's Red Birds, going 0-2 with a 7.45 ERA ... the trade is the second transaction between the Pirates and Cardinals within two weeks ... May 5, in an exchange of pitchers, Pittsburgh trades Max Surkont for St. Louis' Luis Arroyo.



Dick Littlefield

Bill Virdon

Bobby Del Greco

IN A STRAIGHT player deal, the Cards peddled their 1955 "Rookie of the Year," Outfielder Bill Virdon, to the Pirates for Pitcher Dick Littlefield and Outfielder Bobby Del Greco.



## Bobby Del Greco [8 of 13]:

**May 22, 1956**

Frank Lane, St. Louis Cardinals general manager, discloses that the Chicago Cubs and the Philadelphia Phillies both rejected deals for Bill Virdon before he was traded to Pittsburgh on May 16 ... Lane confirms a report that the Cubs turned down a deal that would have sent Virdon to the "Windy City" for pitcher Bob Rush.

**December 8, 1956**

The St. Louis Cardinals announce the signing of veteran outfielder Bobby Del Greco and rookie pitchers Lynn Lovenguth and Marty Kutyna, bringing to nine the number of Redbirds signed for 1957.

**April 10, 1957**

The Chicago Cubs and the St. Louis Cardinals meet for three hours but fail to make a deal involving Cardinal outfielder Bobby Del Greco ... "I'd make a deal for center fielder Bobby Del Greco but Lane refused," Cub Vice President John Holland says. "Lane was trying to give us infielder Chuck Harmon but a player like him wouldn't help us. We talked about Vinegar Bend Mizell, but Lane says Mizell is not sound. There's something wrong with his arm." - Mizell will go 8-10 with the Cardinals in 1957 with a 3.74 ERA.

### Lane Trades Omaha Lefty in King Deal

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#### Cubs Get Del Greco; Diering Could Go

By Edward Prell

St. Louis, Mo.—The Chicago Cubs hit no baseballs Saturday but a few minutes after their game with the Cardinals was rained out they came up with a new center-fielder.

He is Bobby Del Greco—a Tris Speaker in the field but far from one at the plate.

The Cubs gave Jim King, utility outfielder who was drafted from Omaha when that St. Louis farm club was in the Class A Western League.

Omaha also figured in the Del Greco deal. It must deliver a southpaw pitcher—to be named Monday—to Fort Worth of the Texas League.

**Cubs Shun Tag**  
Del Greco, after batting .287 for Hollywood in 1955, was rated a 100-thousand-dollar player by the Pittsburgh Pirates, who owned him.

The Cubs were interested in him but not at that price. Last May, 17 the Pirates traded him and Pitcher Dick Littlefield to the Cardinals for Bill Virdon.

◀◀ **April 20, 1957**

Less than one year after being acquired by St. Louis, Del Greco is on the move again when the Cardinals trade him and pitcher Ed Mayer to the Chicago Cubs for outfielder Jim King ... Mayer, out of the University of California, appears in 22 games in two seasons (1957-58) with the Cubs, going 2-2 with a 4.31 ERA ... King, coming off a 15 home run, 54 RBI season, will appear in only 22 games for the Redbirds in 1957, hitting .314 (11-for-35) ... to make room for Del Greco, the Cubs option Bob Will, a 25-year-old rookie, who had won the center field spot in spring training, to Fort Worth.

**April 21, 1957**

One day after being acquired by the from St. Louis, Chicago's Del Greco comes back to haunt his former teammates with an 11th inning single off of Larry Jackson that drives in the go-ahead run in a 5-3 win over the Cardinals in the first game of a double header ... also figuring in the victory for the Cubs is 31-year-old left-hander Dick Littlefield who retires Wally Moon and Ken Boyer en route to picking up his eighth career save.

**Before the game, Don Kaiser, the Cubs' starting pitcher in the first game, is the victim of cruel hoax as the 22-year-old Byng, Oklahoma, native receives a wire from Brooklyn that reads, "Phone home immediately. Mother desperately ill, Dad." ... Kaiser's mom had died a year earlier and his dad lived in Ada, Oklahoma, not Brooklyn ... Kaiser responds to the hoax by allowing only three runs on eight hits in eight innings.**

**May 20, 1957**

Chicago Cub Vice President John Holland announces the acquisition of outfielder and ex-UCLA player Frank Ernaga from their Portland farm club in the Pacific Coast League ... to make room for Ernaga, Del Greco is optioned on 24-hour recall to the Brooklyn Dodgers' Montreal farm club in the International League instead of the Cubs' top farm team Portland in the Pacific Coast League ... Holland explains that Portland "is well stocked with outfielders."

Del Greco is batting .200 for the Cubs with eight hits in 40 at bats ... the 26-year-old Ernaga, who hit 83 home runs in his four prior minor league seasons (1953-1956), will bat .314 for the Cubs with two home runs and seven RBIs.



## Bobby Del Greco [9 of 13]:

### IL Stars To Meet Brooklyn Today

MONTREAL, Aug. 19 (INS)—Dixie Walker, once the "peepul's cherce" of Brooklyn, will lead the International League All-Stars against the Dodgers today in the loon's second All-Star classic.

Walker, manager of the Toronto Maple Leafs, will pilot the All-Star squad.

The first team, which was selected by fan vote, consists of Buffalo first baseman Luke Easter, Toronto second sacker Mike Goliat, shortstop Mike Baxes of Buffalo, third baseman Frank Verdi of Rochester, catcher Ray Noble of Buffalo and outfielders Gene Green of Rochester, Bobby Del Greco of Montreal and Johnny Powers of Columbus.

The fans also selected Jim Coates of Richmond as their righthanded pitcher and Walt Craddock of Buffalo as their southpaw hurler.

### ◀◀ August 12, 1957

Del Greco is hitting near .290 when he is voted to the International (AAA) League All-Star team ... the All-Stars will play the Brooklyn Dodgers on August 19.

### September 4, 1957

Del Greco is among 11 players that the Chicago Cubs recall to their major league roster ... others include outfielder Solly Drake, pitcher Don Kaiser and infielder Casey Wise from Portland and outfielder Bob Lennon from San Diego.

### September 9, 1957

The 24-year-old Del Greco becomes an American Leaguer for the first time in his career as the New York Yankees purchase his contract from the Montreal Royals ... Del Greco is expected to spell Yankee star Mickey Mantle, crippled the past week with painful shin splints ... in 123 games with the Royals, Del Greco hit .276 with 24 doubles, seven triples and eight home runs ... in eight appearances with the Yankees, he will hit .429 with three hits in seven at bats.

### Yankee Role for Del Greco

#### N. Y. Buys Outfielder From Chicago Cubs

New York (AP)—The New York Yankees Monday bought Bobby Del Greco, a 24-year-old outfielder, from the Chicago Cubs.

"We got him for outfield insurance," commented a Yank spokesman.

Del Greco played the past season with the Montreal Royals of the International League where he hit .276 in 123 games.

Since joining the Cubs, he has been going along at a .200 clip.

The Yanks said it was a cash transaction, but that they will send a player to the Cubs next year.

Del Greco may substitute for Mickey Mantle, star outfielder who has been sidelined by a painful leg condition.

He may substitute for Mickey Mantle, star outfielder who has been sidelined by a painful leg condition.

Del Greco, a Pittsburgh resident, is known as one of the best "glove men" in baseball. He broke in with the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1952 when only 19.

Subsequently, he played mostly in the minor leagues. On May 17, 1956, the Pirates traded him to St. Louis for Outfielder Bill Virdon.

Early this season the Cards traded him to the Cubs and later he was farmed out to Montreal.

Del Greco will not be eligible for the World Series.

### October 15, 1957

Baseball Commissioner Ford Frick announces that the World Series share for the champion Milwaukee Braves will total \$297,791.57 while the New York Yankees earn \$198,527.72 ... Yankee coach Bill Dickey, who left his duties in spring training because of illness and did not rejoin the team, is given a full share by the Yankees ... Sal Maglie, who spent the final month of the season with the Yankees and wins two vital games, is rewarded with a half-share of \$2,803.03 ... Del Greco and Zeke Bella, who are brought up from the minors in the final month, are given 1/4 share of \$1,401.50 each.

### May 14, 1958

The New York Yankees announce that they have sold right-handed pitcher Al Cicotte to the Washington Senators for an estimated \$25,000 and have optioned outfielder Bobby Del Greco and infielder Fritz Brickell to the minors ... Cicotte, 2-2 with a 3.03 in 20 appearances with the Yankees, is the grand nephew of Eddie Cicotte of Chicago Black Sox infamy ... in two years (1960), the younger Cicotte will be named as the International League Pitcher of the Year after finishing 16-7 with a 1.79 ERA with the Toronto Maple Leafs ... Del Greco is sent to the Richmond Virginians of the International (AAA) League and the 5'5" Brickell to the Denver Bears of the American (AAA) Association.

### June 8, 1958

Jack Fulp of the *Petersburg (Va.) Progress-Index* writes of Richmond center fielder Bobby Del Greco:

**"One has to range far and wide to overshadow the Vees' Bobby Del Greco, another who covers the garden like a blanket and ranks with the better center fielders in the game on the basis of glove work alone. In fact, in order to see better fielding work in the position, one would have to be watching the San Francisco Giants with the great Willie Mays."**

### September 8, 1958

Del Greco and "highly-regarded" first baseman John Jaciuk, are among nine players that the New York Yankees recall from their minor leagues, all of them to report next spring ... Del Greco is coming off a solid 1958 campaign at Richmond where he hit .267 with 17 doubles, nine home runs and 45 RBIs.

The highly-regarded Jaciuk (pronounced Yah-chick) is coming off a season where he hit .264 with five home

## Bobby Del Greco [10 of 13]:

runs and 59 RBIs for Richmond ... a pre-season scouting report on the 28-year-old Jaciuk, in the March 1959 issue of *Baseball Digest*, says "No more than AAA at best. He has a good arm and fields well at first. Average runner and hitter. Never has shown much hustle, however." ... the scouting report proves to be well-founded as Jaciuk never makes it to the majors, finishing an 8-year minor league career in 1961.

### October 16, 1958

The New York Yankees vote for 32 full World Series shares amounting to \$8,759 ... a full losing slice for each of 31 Milwaukee players is worth \$5,896 ... Virgil Trucks, who joins the Yankees in mid-June, receives a full share while a 3/4's share, worth \$6,569.83 is accorded pitcher Murray Dickson, who was acquired from Kansas City in late August ... Bobby Del Greco and Fritz Brickell and Johnny James, all of whom played briefly, receive one-fourth shares.

The Yankees also announce that outfielder Bobby Del Greco has been sent back to Richmond, with cash, and that two players from New Orleans were being brought up to the parent club - first baseman Frank Leja, who hit 29 home runs and batted in 103 runs for the Pelicans and outfielder Jack Reed, who hit .309 and led the league in stolen bases.

### April 12, 1959

The International League Buffalo Bisons acquire "fleet-footed" Bobby Del Greco from the Richmond Virginians ... Buffalo General Manager Don Labbruz negotiated for several days with Roy Hamey, assistant to New York Yankees' general manager George Weiss, before completing the deal ... the purchase price is not disclosed, but it is believed the Bisons paid between \$15,000 and \$20,000 for Del Greco ... Del Greco is sold to make room for Jack Reed and Bob Martyn who were sent down by the Yankees.

## Bisons Place Four On All-Star Team To Face Pirates

MONTREAL (AP) — The pace-setting Buffalo Bisons have landed four positions on the International League All-Star team which will meet the Pittsburgh Pirates at Columbus, Ohio on Aug. 27.

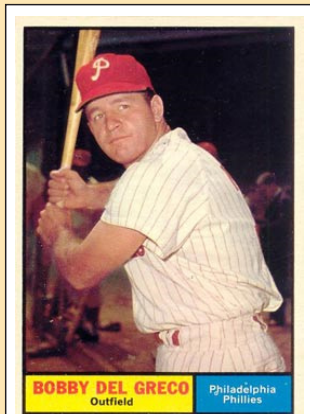
Selected for the all-stars were first baseman Frank Herrera, shortstop Ruben Amaro, outfielder Bobby Del Greco and catcher Jim Coker, all of Buffalo; second baseman Curt Roberts and outfielder Sandy Amoros of Montreal; third baseman Woody Smith and right-handed pitcher Jim Anderson of Miami; outfielder Charley James of Rochester; outfielder Tony Gonzalez of Havana and left-handed pitcher Bill Short of Richmond.

The team was selected by the league managers.

Bison Manager Kerby Farrell said Del Greco "gives us a big lift. Not only is he a fine outfielder, but he's a right-handed hitter, and that's important in Buffalo's Offermann Stadium."

### August 10, 1959

The first-place Buffalo Bisons have four players earn spots on the 1959 International League all-star team which will meet the Pittsburgh Pirates at Columbus, Ohio, on August 27 ... selected for the all-stars are first baseman Frank Herrera, shortstop Ruben Amaro, outfielder Bobby Del Greco and catcher Jim Coker, all of Buffalo; second baseman Curt Roberts and outfielder Sandy Amoros of Montreal; third baseman Woody Smith and right-handed pitcher Jim Anderson of Miami; outfielder Charley James of Rochester; outfielder Tony Gonzalez of Havana and left-handed pitcher Bill Short of Richmond.



**BOBBY DEL GRECO**  
Outfield Philadelphia Phillies  
Coming off his best season in the major leagues - 10 home runs, 26 RBIs, .237 batting average - Del Greco's 1961 Topps card (#592) will net you \$15.00 in near-mint condition.

### September 29, 1959

The Philadelphia Phillies purchase the contract of outfielder Bobby Del Greco from the Buffalo Bisons, champions of the International League ... a Phillies spokesman said they had the privilege of acquiring the 26-year former major leaguer because of a working agreement with the Bisons.

### May 20, 1960

Playing in his 281st major league game, and for his fifth team, Philadelphia Phillies outfielder Bobby Del Greco produces his first four-hit game of his career

Gene Conley and Bobby Del Greco paced the Phillies to their victory over the Dodgers. Conley turned in a five-hitter for his second triumph and Del Greco had four-for-four, including a double and a triple.

Los Angeles (N)		Philadelphia (N)	
ab.	r.	ab.	r.
Gilliam 3b	4 2 2	Taylor 2b	5 2 1
Neal 2b	4 1 1	Dark 3b	3 1 0
Moon lf	3 0 0	Del Greco cf	4 4 1
Larker 1b	4 0 0	Herrera 1b	4 1 1
Howard rf	3 1 0	Post lf	4 2 2
Davis cf	3 0 0	Smith lf	0 0 0
Roseboro c	2 0 0	Walters rf	4 2 1
Wills ss	3 1 0	Neeman c	4 0 0
Podres p	1 0 0	Koppe ss	3 0 0
Roebuck p	0 0 0	Conley p	4 1 0
aSnider	1 0 0		
Labine p	0 0 0		
Rakow p	0 0 0		
aSpromente	1 0 0		
Sherry p	0 0 0		

Totals 29 5 3 Totals 35 13 6  
aStruck out for Roebuck in sixth; bRan for Post in seventh; cPopped out for Rakow in eighth.  
Los Angeles .....000 002 001-3  
Philadelphia .....101 010 30x-6  
R-Neal, Roseboro Wills, Taylor 2.  
Dark, Del Greco, Herrera, Smith, E-  
Wills. PO-A-Los Angeles 24-14. Phila-  
delphia 27-12. DP-Conley-Koppe-Herrera:  
Koppe-Herrera. Left-Los Angeles 1. Phila-  
delphia 7.  
2B-Post 2, Dark, Walters 2, Del Greco.  
3B-Del Greco 2, Howard. HR-Taylor.  
Neal SB-Wills. A-18,661.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Podres (L, 2-4) .....	4	6	3	3	2	4
Roebuck .....	1	2	0	0	0	1
Labine .....	1 2/3	5	3	3	0	2
Rakow .....	1 2/3	0	0	0	0	0
Sherry .....	1	0	0	0	0	1
Conley (W, 2-1) .....	9	5	3	3	2	4



## Bobby Del Greco [11 of 13]:

in a 6-3 win over the Los Angeles Dodgers ... Del Greco pounds out a triple, a double and two singles in four at bats with one RBI ... the 4-for-4 effort raises his batting average from .230 to .269.

"I've had four hits in one day before – in a double-header up here – and I've done it before in the minors," says Del Greco. "but this is the first time I've ever had four hits in one game in the majors, no matter how many at bats I had."

### DEL GRECO IS SENT TO A'S

#### Phillies Given Covington in Return

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The Philadelphia Phillies and Kansas City Athletics swapped outfielders Sunday, with the Phillies giving up Bobby Del Greco in exchange for Wes Covington.

The swap came about as the result of an agreement signed early Sunday between Phillies general manager John Quinn and Athletics general manager Frank Lane.

For Lane, the deal marks the second time he has acquired Del Greco. In 1956, when Lane was general manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, he swapped Billy Virdon for the right-handed hitting outfielder.

Covington, a left-handed hitting outfielder, is a returnee to the Quinn camp. He was under Quinn in 1957 and 1958, when Quinn was general manager of the Milwaukee Braves and played a key part in the Milwaukee club's drives for the pennant in those years.

old Pittsburgh native hit .251 with 17 homers and 65 RBIs while playing for Toronto of the International League last season ... as part of the deal, the Phillies sell Chattanooga catcher Larry Baughman to Birmingham of the Southern League.

### March 29, 1965 ▶▶

On the same day that Milwaukee manager Bobby Bragan announces that the Braves will not take infield practice before their games this upcoming season, Philadelphia Phillies manager Gene Mauch says that Bobby Del Greco will probably make the team's opening day roster because "he can play center field as well as anyone."

### May 5, 1965

In his final major league at bat, Philadelphia Phillies outfielder Bobby Del Greco strikes out against future Hall of Famer Warren Spahn of the New York Mets ... inserted as a defensive replacement for left fielder Wes Covington (see July 2, 1961) in the seventh inning, Del Greco strikes out to end the top of the ninth inning in a 1-0 Phillies' win before 14,134 at Shea Stadium ... Del Greco is the

### ◀◀ (Frank Lane II) July 2, 1961

For the second time in a little over five years, Frank Lane obtains Bobby Del Greco in a trade for a left-handed hitting outfielder ... Del Greco is batting .259 with two home runs and 11 RBIs when he is traded by Philadelphia to the Kansas City Athletics for outfielder Wes Covington ... the 29-year-old Covington is hitting .233 with five homers and 21 RBIs ... in 1958, Covington finished 16th in MVP voting after hitting .330 with 27 home runs and 74 RBIs for the Milwaukee Braves.

### May 28, 1962

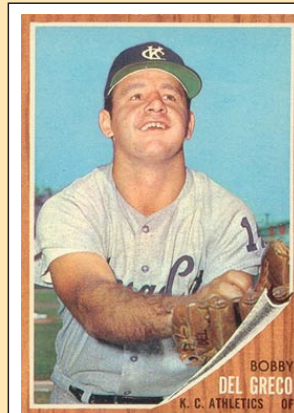
Kansas City outfielder Bobby Del Greco homers off Yankee left-hander Bud Daley in Municipal Stadium but loses it when the game is called off in the second inning after a steady rain twice delays the contest ... the Athletics are leading 2-1 when the game is called ... Del Greco's blast comes in the first inning.

### February 7, 1964

The Toronto Maple Leafs of the International (AAA) League announce the purchase of outfielder Bobby Del Greco from the Kansas City Athletics of the American League ... The 31-year-old Del Greco, now a 14-year veteran of professional baseball, played for the Maple Leafs in 1952 and 1953.

### December 22, 1964

The Philadelphia Phillies announce that the Arkansas Travelers of the Pacific Coast (AAA) League has purchased the contract of veteran outfielder Bobby Del Greco from the Vancouver Mounties ... the 31-year-



Obviously enjoying a 1961 season where he hits .239 with 19 doubles and seven home runs for Kansas City, Del Greco's 1962 Topps Card (#548) is worth \$15.00 in today's market.

## Braves Nix Field Work

### Milwaukee Club Snaps Tradition

CLEARWATER, Fla. (AP) — Unless President Warren Giles of the National League rules otherwise, the Milwaukee Braves will not take infield practice before their games this season.

Manager Bobby Bragan is bucking one of baseball's pet traditions by abolishing the routine this spring. He feels that infield practice is unnecessary and that eliminating it would be appreciated by both players and fans.

"Infield practice becomes less and less appealing to the players as the season wears on," Bragan said Monday. "They get plenty of ground balls hit to them in batting practice. Besides, the fans would rather see somebody hit the ball out of the park than see a bunch of guys throw the ball around."

Bragan said that batting practice would be lengthened to take up the pregame slack.

## Bobby Del Greco [12 of 13]:

### Final Major League Game May 8, 1965, Connie Mack Stadium Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

ST. LOUIS		PHILADELPHIA	
ab	r h bi	ab	r h bi
Gagliano 2b	6 2 1 1	Rojas 2b	6 1 3 1
Brock lf	4 0 1 2	Callison rf	6 2 4 0
Flood cr	4 1 0 2	Allen 3b	4 3 2 1
Boyer 3b	4 0 0 0	Stuart 1b	5 1 2 1
Groat ss	2 0 1 1	Johnson lf	5 1 1 1
Maxvill ss	2 1 0 0	Taylor 2b	2 0 0 0
Warwick 1b	3 0 0 0	Gonzalez cf	3 0 2 1
Skinner ph	1 1 1 2	Triandos c	2 0 0 0
McC'ver ph	1 0 0 0	Covinton ph	1 0 0 1
Shannon rf	4 0 0 0	Dal'mple c	2 0 1 0
Uecker c	4 1 1 0	Del Greco pr	0 0 0 0
Simmons p	2 1 0 0	Corrales c	0 0 0 1
Franc'na ph	0 0 0 0	Amaro ss	4 1 1 0
Javier pr	0 1 0 0	Belinsky p	3 0 1 0
White 1b	2 0 1 0	Briggs ph	1 0 0 0
		H'rinstein ph	1 0 0 0

Totals 39 8 6 8 Totals 45 9 17 7  
Two out when winning run scored.  
St. Louis ..... 000 002 060 00—8  
Philadelphia ..... 001 003 301 01—9  
E—Amaro, Rojas. DP—St. Louis 3, Philadelphia 1. LOB—St. Louis 5, Philadelphia 11.  
2B—Amaro, Callison, Allen. HR—Skinner (1). SB—Gonzalez, Brock. S—Allen. SF—Flood.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Simmons	51-3	8	4	4	1	0
R. Taylor	2-3	3	2	2	1	0
Schultz	1-3	2	1	1	0	0
Carlton	2-3	0	0	0	0	1
Purkey	2	2	1	1	0	2
Briles L. 0-1	12-3	2	1	1	3	0
Belinsky	7	2	4	2	4	3
B'dschun	1	3	4	2	0	1
Roebuck	2	0	0	0	1	2
Culp W. 1-1	1	1	0	0	0	0

Belinsky faced 2 men in 8th.  
HBP—By Purkey, Johnson; By Roebuck, Brock. WP—Belinsky, R. Taylor. PB—Uecker. T—4:02. A—19,596.

2,513th career strikeout of Spahn's illustrious career ... in his career, Del Greco is 8-for-35 (.229) with two doubles and an RBI against Spahn.

### ◀◀ May 8, 1965

Philadelphia Phillies outfielder Bobby Del Greco plays in his final major league game ... the 32-year-old Del Greco pinch runs for catcher Clay Dalrymple in the bottom of the 11th inning and is forced out at second base on a failed sacrifice bunt by Ruben Amaro.

### May 11, 1965

The Philadelphia Phillies announce that pitcher Morrie Steevens (0-1, 16.88) and catcher Pat Corrales (.000) are being optioned to the Arkansas Travelers of the Pacific Coast (AAA) League on 24-hour recall and outfielder Bobby Del Greco is being released outright to the Travelers.

## September 5, 1966 ▶▶

33-year-old Indianapolis Indians' outfielder Bobby Del Greco plays the last two games of his 15-year professional baseball career notching three hits in six at bats and driving in four runs as the Indians sweep a doubleheader from the visiting Oklahoma City 89ers on the final day of the Pacific Coast (AAA) League season ... in the opening game, batting sixth and playing right field, Del Greco goes 3-for-4 with three RBIs in a 17-8 victory ... in a 6-1 nightcap triumph, batting seventh and again in right field, he goes 0-for-2 with an RBI on a sacrifice fly.

### Final Professional Baseball Game September 5, 1966 Owen Bush Stadium, Indianapolis, Indiana

## Indy Crushes 89ers, 17-8, 6-1

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indianapolis Indians exploded for 23 runs in a holiday doubleheader with Oklahoma City yesterday, winning the nine-inning opener, 17-8, and the seven-inning nightcap, 6-1.

OKLA. CITY		INDIANAPOLIS	
ab	r h bi	ab	r h bi
Davis cf	4 1 1 3	Staehe 2b	3 4 1 0
Gotay 2b	5 0 3 3	Bradford cf	6 2 1 2
Lampard lf	5 0 1 0	J's'ph's'n c	6 3 2 2
Murray 1b	3 0 0 0	Cande 1b	6 4 4 2
Pointer rf	5 0 0 0	K'worthy 3b	6 2 3 1
S'nerud 3b	5 2 2 0	Del Greco rf	4 1 3 3
McF'dn ss	5 3 4 1	Rchrdsn ss	4 1 3 3
Retzer c	5 2 2 1	Stroud lf	4 0 2 4
Arlich p	0 0 0 0	M. Johnston p	4 0 0 0
Von Hoff p	0 0 0 0	Klages p	0 0 0 0
Pierini ph-p	1 0 0 0	Neville p	1 0 0 0
And'rsn p	2 0 0 0	Hacker p	0 0 0 0
Totals	40 8 13 8	Totals	44 17 19 17

Oklahoma City ..... 000 020 330—8  
Indianapolis ..... 311 250 14x—17  
E—McFadden, Lampard, Murray, Gotay. DP—Oklahoma City 2. LOB—Oklahoma City 9, Indianapolis 12. 2B—Cande 2, Richardson, Stroud, Retzer, Lampard, Staehle. 3B—McFadden. HR—Bradford (3), Josephson (6), Davis (4). SB—Stroud.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Arlich (L, 6-10)	3	5	5	4	4	3
Von Hoff	1	1	2	0	1	1
Pierini	1	5	5	5	2	0
Anderson	3	8	5	5	1	2
M. Johnston (W, 18-7)	5	3	2	2	3	2
Klages	11-3	3	3	3	0	1
Neville	11-3	6	3	3	0	2
Hacker	11-3	1	0	0	0	0

HBP—By Von Hoff (Stroud); By Neville (Murray). T—2:36.

OKLAHOMA CITY		INDIANAPOLIS	
ab	r h bi	ab	r h bi
Davis cf	4 0 1 0	Stroud lf	3 1 0 0
Gotay 2b	3 0 1 0	Staehle 2b	3 2 2 0
Lampard lf	3 1 1 0	Ken'worthy 3b	2 1 0 0
Murray 1b	3 0 1 1	Cande 1b	3 1 1 1
Pointer rf	3 0 0 0	Josephson c	3 1 2 3
Adlesh c	3 0 0 0	Bradford cf	3 0 1 1
S'nerud 3b	3 0 1 0	Del Greco rf	2 0 0 1
McFadden ss	3 0 1 0	xRichardson ss	1 0 0 0
Twitchell p	0 0 0 0	Fischer p	3 0 0 0
Ward p	2 0 1 0		
Gaines ph	1 0 0 0		
Totals	28 1 7 1	Totals	23 6 6 6

x-Richardson awarded first base on catcher's interference.  
Oklahoma City ..... 100 000 0—1  
Indianapolis ..... 400 020 x—6  
E—Adlesh, Ward. LOB—Oklahoma City 6, Indianapolis 5. 2B—Bradford. 3B—Murray, McFadden. SB—Stroud 2, Staehle, Richardson. SF—Del Greco.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
x-Twitchell (L 0-2)	0	2	4	4	3	0
Ward	6	4	2	2	1	3
Fischer (W 11-6)	7	7	1	1	0	9

x—Twitchell faced 5 batters in first.  
WP—Fischer. T—1:37. A—1,679.



## Bobby Del Greco Year by Year:

Year	Age	Team	League	Level	G	PA	AB	R	HT	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	SLG	Avg.
1950	17	Salisbury Pirates	North Carolina State	D	64	-	183	-	46	6	3	3	-	-	-	-	.366	.251
1951	18	Hutchinson Elks	Western	C	123	-	453	-	137	37	6	4	-	-	-	-	.437	.302
1952	19	Pittsburgh Pirates	NATIONAL	ML	99	385	341	34	74	14	2	1	20	6	38	70	.279	.217
1952	19	Toronto Maple Leafs	International	AAA	27	82	61	14	19	5	3	0	12	2	17	4	.492	.311
1953	20	Toronto Maple Leafs	International	AAA	129	468	379	64	90	15	10	6	48	9	74	65	.377	.237
<b>1954</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3 Teams</b>	<b>3 Leagues</b>	<b>A-AA</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>.354</b>	<b>.244</b>
1954	21	Hollywood Stars	Pacific Coast	Open	40	113	96	14	23	6	0	1	10	3	11	16	.333	.240
1954	21	Williamsport Grays	Eastern	A	15	-	52	-	16	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	.462	.308
1954	21	New Orleans Pelicans	Southern	AA	38	-	98	-	21	7	0	1	-	-	-	-	.316	.214
1955	22	Hollywood Stars	Pacific Coast	Open	159	586	481	86	138	26	4	13	73	21	70	68	.439	.287
<b>1956</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2 Teams</b>	<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>ML</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>.355</b>	<b>.214</b>
1956	23	Pittsburgh Pirates	NATIONAL	ML	14	24	20	4	4	0	0	2	3	0	3	3	.500	.200
1956	23	St. Louis Cardinals	NATIONAL	ML	102	315	270	29	58	16	2	5	18	1	32	50	.344	.215
<b>1957</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>2 Teams</b>	<b>NATIONAL/AMERICAN</b>	<b>ML</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>.277</b>	<b>.234</b>
1957	24	Chicago Cubs	NATIONAL	ML	20	51	40	2	8	2	0	0	3	1	10	17	.250	.200
1957	24	New York Yankees	AMERICAN	ML	8	9	7	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	.429	.429
1957	24	Montreal Royals	International	AAA	123	520	435	66	120	24	7	8	49	6	70	83	.418	.276
1958	25	New York Yankees	AMERICAN	ML	12	6	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	.200	.200
1958	25	Richmond Virginians	International	AAA	100	388	329	53	88	17	4	9	45	3	44	40	.426	.267
1959	26	Buffalo Bisons	International	AAA	152	667	542	109	155	48	1	21	72	5	88	91	.494	.286
1960	27	Philadelphia Phillies	NATIONAL	ML	100	363	300	48	71	16	4	10	26	1	54	64	.417	.237
<b>1961</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>2 Teams</b>	<b>NATIONAL/AMERICAN</b>	<b>ML</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>.359</b>	<b>.239</b>
1961	28	Philadelphia Phillies	NATIONAL	ML	41	129	112	14	29	5	0	2	11	0	12	17	.357	.259
1961	28	Kansas City Athletics	AMERICAN	ML	74	276	239	34	55	14	1	5	21	1	30	31	.360	.230
1962	29	Kansas City Athletics	AMERICAN	ML	132	403	338	61	86	21	1	9	38	4	49	62	.402	.254
1963	30	Kansas City Athletics	AMERICAN	ML	121	358	306	40	65	7	1	8	29	1	40	52	.320	.212
1964	31	Toronto Maple Leafs	International	AAA	134	542	423	74	108	19	5	17	65	9	97	80	.444	.255
1965	32	Philadelphia Phillies	NATIONAL	ML	8	4	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	.250	.250
1965	32	Arkansas Travelers	Pacific Coast	AA	120	500	406	78	107	26	3	16	68	5	73	77	.461	.264
<b>1966</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2 Teams</b>	<b>1 League</b>	<b>AAA</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>.367</b>	<b>.248</b>
1966	33	San Diego Padres	Pacific Coast	AAA	107	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	---
1966	33	Indianapolis Indians	Pacific Coast	AAA	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	---
<b>Major League Totals</b>			<b>9 Years</b>		<b>731</b>	<b>2323</b>	<b>1982</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>.352</b>	<b>.229</b>
<b>Minor League Totals</b>			<b>12 Years</b>		<b>1362</b>	<b>5063</b>	<b>4325</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>1164</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>.426</b>	<b>.269</b>