## **On This Date**

## <u>August 24,1951</u>

In a Friday night game against the visiting Philadelphia Athletics, St. Louis Browns owner Bill Veeck stages a controversial "Grandstand Managers Night" handing placards out to 1,150 fans behind the Browns' dugout.

The placards have YES and NO on them, allowing the selected to have a say in the strategy of the game. When asked by two fan "coaches" what the Browns should do on a given play, fans flash their cards.



The two "coaches" were to have been on the field but are denied permission when the American League office refuses to approve their contracts.

The promotion gives St. Louis quick dividends in the opening inning.

First, the fans vote to leave starting pitcher Ned Garver in the game after the visiting Athletics greet the star right-hander with three quick runs. Garver settles down to pitch eight scoreless inning en route to recording his 17th complete game of the year.

The fans' second decision to leave the Browns infield back with one out and two runners on base results in an inning-ending double play.

As for the game itself, catcher Sherm Lollar and first baseman Hank Arft each drive in two runs and Garver allows only seven hits and strikes out five as the Browns rally for a 5-3 victory.

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