To Farmer, Allen Was All He Was Cracked Up to Be

By Paul Ladewski
Posted on Thursday, April 19

Almost everyone has a Dick Allen story, and White Sox radio broadcaster Ed Farmer remembers his all too well. It took place at Comiskey Park on May 26, 1973, when in the completion of a suspended game, Allen came to bat with the score tied in the 21st inning.

“After the first pitch, Dick looked back at (catcher) Ray Fosse and said, 'Whoa, he throws 100 miles per hour,’” recalled Farmer, a Cleveland Indians pitcher at the time. “It was a setup. I threw the same pitch again. Whooomp! He hit a line drive that cracked a seat in the lower deck in right-center field. I was just a kid at the time, and he took advantage of me.”

Farmer is sure to experience another flashback in June, when the Chicago Baseball Museum will pay tribute to Allen and the 1972 White Sox team.

Said Farmer, “Every time I see Dick, he tells people, 'Yeah, I broke a seat against this guy.' You know, like I was the only one.”