

Comment On Sports

By PETE FRITCHE
 Washington, D. C. — The collapse of the Chicago White Sox is one of the strange events of baseball's 1961 season. Manager Al Lopez, who has never finished worse than third, where he landed last year, and who had never finished lower than second up to then, is puzzled.

The charge around the league is that Al is going with too many old timers but he says the old timers are playing good ball. Lopez says it's a question of poor pitching when the hitting's good and weak hitting when the pitching's good, breaks, etc.

But something else is involved, too. There was a hint that the White Sox were on the trading block recently but this has been denied. Nevertheless, when a team is reported up for sale it has a disquieting effect on all.

Probably the answer to the White Sox problem is to be found elsewhere. It's not so much that the White Sox have fizzled, but it's a case of the other teams improving. Detroit, which knocked off the Sox six straight to start the season, is vastly improved.

New York is strong. Cleveland is strong. Baltimore is vastly improved over two years ago—when the Sox won the pennant. Minnesota, though not playing like it,

is a better team than two years ago in Washington.

Kansas City is no puzzle and Washington is surprisingly tough this year. The competition is just tougher. The Sox won two years ago not by beating New York but by beating Cleveland in the crucial last games of the season. That was Al Lopez paying his respects to his former team.

But the Sox must beat the Yankees, if they are to win—as must everyone else. They didn't do it last year and they are having a hard time beating anyone this year. Senior Lopez is in a pickle. He is headed for his worst finish. It will be something new for the venerable skipper, unless he can manage one of those late come-ons—as he tried so hard to do last year.

Wilson Wise Amateur Winner

Wilson Wise of Winston-Salem shot a two-under-par 69 at the Boone Golf Club Sunday to win a one-day amateur tournament sponsored by the Carolina Golf Association.

Sherrill Austin of Morganton was second with 71.

Ed Mock of Winston-Salem had low net in the Class A handicap division Sunday shooting 71, handicap 6, for a score of 65. Tied for second were H. L. Houston of Spartanburg, S. C. and Ralph McCoin of Elkin, both with 74-8-66.

Class B—Roy Blanton, Boone, 73-13-69; Ted Guthrie, Winston-Salem, 75-11-64; Edward Critchtr, Boone, 79-14-65; Von Shelton, Winston-Salem, 77-12-65.

Class C—Gene Smith, Shelby, 80-20-69; Edsel Hodges, Boone, 81-17-64; Dr. Taylor Adams, Boone, 80-23-66.

BARS TRAINING OF CUBANS

President Kennedy apparently has put an end to United States invasion training of anti-Castro Cubans and his reservations on the idea of a total United States economic embargo against Cuba.

Instead, he is reaching out for joint action with the other American republics to try to block Communist inroads in the hemisphere.



This driver slowed just a little as he contemplated sharp turn ahead in Sports Car Hill Climb Sunday.

Duckworth Is Beech Creek News Race Winner

Bill Duckworth of Orlando, Fla., driving a Siata-Corvette, set a new course record Sunday afternoon when he won the eighth annual Grandfather Mountain Sports Car Hill Climb.

The winner's time for the 2 1/2 mile climb up the 5,964-foot mountain was 3:02.1. Previous record was 3:19.9, set by Phil Styles of Burnsville in 1958.

Duckworth won first over-all and first in the B Modified class. Second over-all and first in C Production was Ed Price of Charlotte in a Corvette and third over-all and first in F Modified was J. P. Brady of Franklin in an MGA.

Herb Hill of Asheville, driving a Fiat-Abarth, won fourth over-all and first in H Modified.

SURPRISED DONOR

Ilford, England—The organizer of a charity sale in Ilford, Mrs. Phyllis Proctor, took off her tweed coat briefly to cool off. When she went back to get it she found that it had been sold.

Recent visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Harmon were Mr. and Mrs. Ben Harmon of Pennsylvania, Mr. and Mrs. McKinley Trivett, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Mains of Boone, and Mrs. Vergie Trivett.

Jack Guy, Sheran Hicks and Moralene, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Guy visited Filmore Hicks who is a patient at Cannon Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. Sue Trivett visited Mrs. Marie Ward Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Williams of Elizabethton, Tenn., visited Mr. and Mrs. Hurst Trivett Thursday.

Mrs. Julie Edmiston and Mrs. Opal Mays visited Mrs. Delphia Reece and Miss Victoria Reece Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Hollars of Boone visited Mr. and Mrs. Hurst Trivett Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Captain Hicks visited Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Stines and children of Rominger Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Thomas and daughter, Sandra Delane, visited Mr. and Mrs. Jack Taylor this week end.

W. M. Harmon, Cloyce and Inez Harmon visited Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wistman of Spruce Pine Sunday.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Norman Stansberry Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Ray Toombs and Dicky of Bristol, Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Stansbury, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stansbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Junior Brown and Keith of Hickory visited Mr. and Mrs. Phillips Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hurst Trivett visited Mrs. Vergie Trivett and Mr.

and Mrs. Ivan Trivett and girls, Kay and Karen, of Vilas Sunday.

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Administration farm officials are waxing enthusiastic about the reception they say the emergency food grain program is receiving from farmers.

Reports from corn and sorghum gain areas indicate farmers are standing in line to sign an agreement to retire at least 20 per cent of their corn and sorghum acreage. Aim of the program is to reduce surpluses.

Telephone Talk
 by
H. M. INABINET
 Your Telephone Manager

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