

Dropped by Twins, Whitby Fires No-Hit Game for Charlotte

By LARRY TARLETON
CHARLOTTE, N.C.

August 11 began on a blue note for Bill Whitby, but ended with a sweet song of success when the 22-year-old righthander with Charlotte pitched the first no-hitter of his professional career to defeat Asheville, 2-0.

It also was the first nine-inning no-hitter in the Southern League this season.

Whitby, who had been pitching for Charlotte on option from the Twins, learned the day before that he had been released outright to the Hornets.

His no-hitter was keyed to a touch of irony. Sherry Robertson, farm director of the Twins, was in the stands for the game.

Whitby, who had a brief trial with the Twins last year, walked only one and struck out eight in posting his seventh victory against five defeats. But the 6-foot-1, 190-pounder had to weather several close calls to keep his gem intact.

In fact, one play originally was ruled a hit, then changed to an error after official scorer Wilt Browning conferred with the players involved and the managers of both teams.

Shortstop Drops Ball

In the seventh inning, Felix Santana of Asheville looped a soft liner toward left field. Shortstop Minnie Mendoza, backpedaling, made a leaping catch of the ball and then dropped it.

"I had my eye on it all the way," Mendoza told Browning after the game. "But I just jumped too soon. I should have made the play."

Charlotte Manager Al Evans and Asheville skipper Pete Peterson agreed that Mendoza had misplayed the ball, but Whitby was noncommittal.

Browning changed his decision, charged Mendoza with an error and Whitby had his first no-hitter since his high school days in Victoria, Va.

After graduating in June, 1961, Whitby signed with the Twins and went to Wytheville (Appalachian), where he had a 2-7 record and a 6.05 ERA. After spending time at Ft. Walton Beach (Alabama-Florida) and Wilson (Carolina) the next year, he had another losing season (9-12) at Wilson in 1963.

Whitby moved to Charlotte last year and logged an 11-9 slate. The Twins recalled him briefly.

That little taste of the majors has made Whitby a hungry man. He wants more of the same.



Bill Whitby

Beck Chalks Up Southern's 4th '65 No-Hitter

By PAUL COX
COLUMBUS, Ga.

No-hit games are rapidly becoming a fad in the Southern League.

The latest to accomplish the feat was righthander Rich Beck of the Columbus Yankees, who faced the minimum 21 batters and beat Lynchburg, 2-0, in the seven-inning nightcap of a double-header, August 13.

Beck's masterpiece was the fourth no-hit, no-run game of the season in the league.

The 6-foot-3, 190-pound native of Spokane, Wash., recorded his tenth victory against seven defeats with his sparkling performance against the White Sox.

Beck walked leadoff man Bruce Andrew in the first inning, but after pilfering second, Andrew was thrown out trying to steal third.

He also walked Danny Murphy, leadoff man in the second inning, but Murphy was erased on a double play. The Columbus pitcher then retired Lynchburg in order the final five innings to record the second no-hitter of his professional career.

Same Pilot in '62

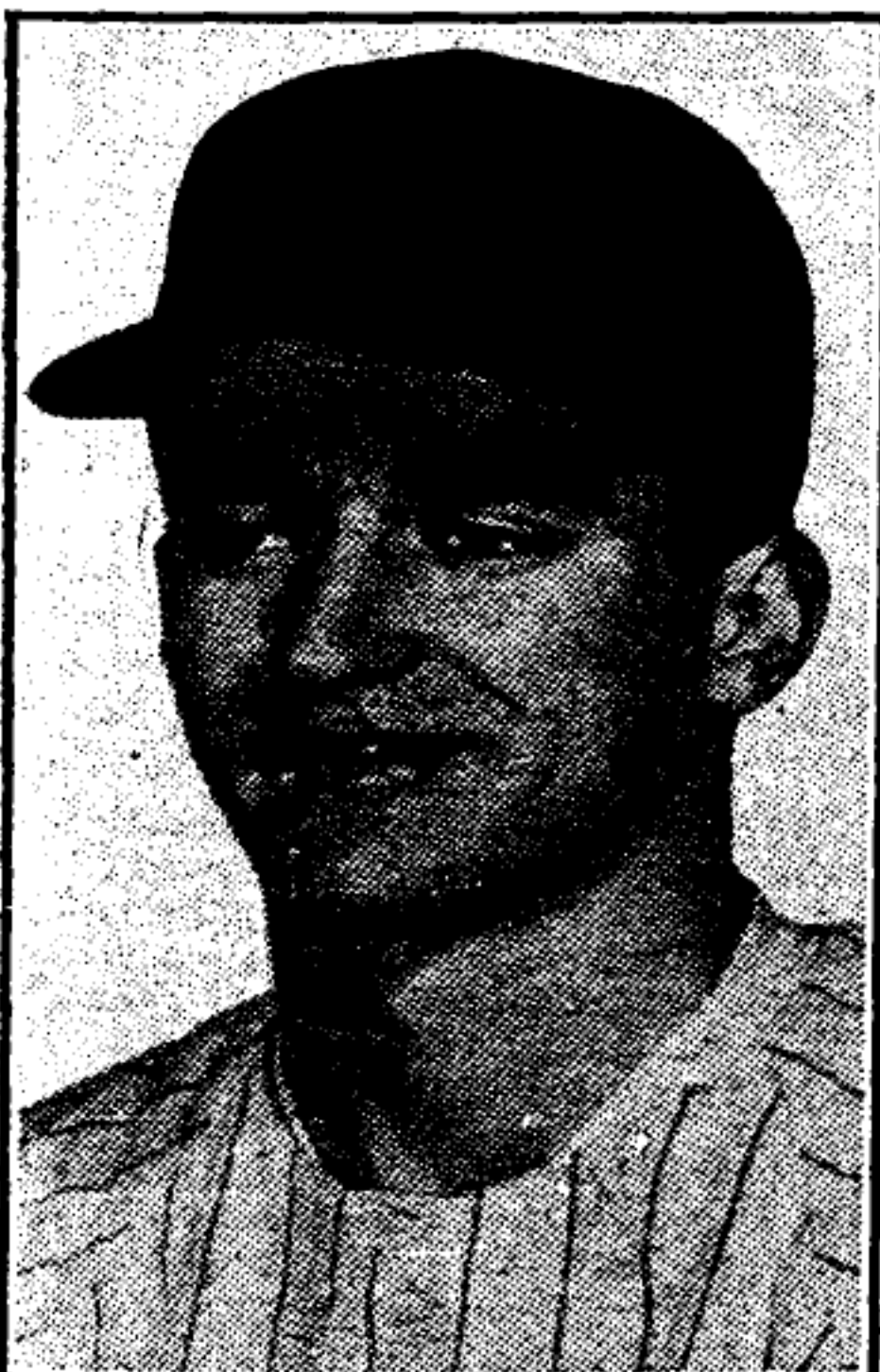
He hurled his first no-hitter, also seven innings, against Boise while making his O. B. debut with Idaho Falls (Pioneer), June 19, 1962. By coincidence, his manager at Idaho Falls was Loren Babe, the present Columbus skipper.

Beck, who had a 6-9 record at Chattanooga last season, was acquired from the Lookouts just before the current campaign opened.

He had been in the Yankees' organization before the Phillies drafted him in November of 1962. Johnny Johnson, the Yankee farm director, said he had always liked the gangling righthander and jumped at the opportunity to get him back.

Beck, christened Richard Henry, was a football, basketball and baseball star at Pasco (Wash.) High School and made the all-state baseball team his senior season. He also played baseball and basketball at Columbia Basin Junior College and at Gonzaga University. He was signed by Yankee scout Eddie Taylor after his graduation.

At Idaho Falls in '62, Rich recorded a 9-6 record, his only winning season in baseball until this year.



Rich Beck

"I'm through
fooling around



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and changed for good...

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CLASS AA

STANDING ON WEDNESDAY A. M., AUGUST 18				
Club	W.	L.	Pct.	G.B.
Columbus (Yankees)	69	49	.585
Asheville (Pirates)	68	53	.562	2 1/2
Lynchburg (White Sox)	64	55	.538	5 1/2
Knoxville (Reds)	60	59	.505	7
Charlotte (Twins)	60	59	.504	9 1/2
Chattanooga (Phillies)	54	66	.450	16
Montgomery (Tigers)	52	66	.441	17
Birmingham (Athletics)	46	71	.393	22 1/2

Major league affiliations in parentheses.

RELIEF SUITS SPURGIN

JACK SPURGIN, who has developed into one of the league's most reliable relievers, pitched five innings of shutout ball and gained his second victory in three days when Columbus defeated Lynchburg, 4-2, August 15. The righthander yielded only two hits. His other victory came much quicker. Replacing Stan Bahnsen with the bases loaded in the sixth inning, Spurgin struck out Ike Brown to retire the side and then went out for a pinch-hitter in the Columbus half when the Yankees scored twice to nip Lynchburg, 2-1.

Luke Walker joined the ranks of the league's ten-game winners by pitching Asheville to a 7-1 victory over Birmingham, August 15. Adding extra frills to his performance, the lefthander had a perfect day at the plate with two singles and two sacrifices.

El Olivares, Charlotte's utility outfielder, received permission from the Hornets to depart for his home in Puerto Rico, August 10, after receiving word that his mother had suffer-

Hex Night Proves Charm For Columbus Twin - Bill

COLUMBUS, GA.—The Columbus Yankees, who had a season's edge of only 7-6 against Lynchburg, staged Hex Night for a double-header with the White Sox, Friday, August 13.

Anyone entering the park with a live black cat or a broken mirror to put the jinx on Lynchburg was admitted for 50 cents. The same price prevailed for any fan carrying a rabbit's foot, four-leafed clover or horseshoe to bring good luck to Columbus.

The combination worked because the Yankees swept the twin-bill, 2-1 and 2-0, with Rich Beck pitching a no-hitter in the nightcap. The attendance was 1,283.

ed a heart attack. He will not rejoin the club this season.

ANDREW'S STREAK HALTED

OUTFIELDER Bruce Andrew, who had hit safely in 15 straight games for Lynchburg, was stopped on his streak when the White Sox lost to Knoxville, 4-2, August 11. Tom Frondorf, who pitched a four-hitter for the Smokies, collared Andrew in four trips.

Three scoreless innings of relief netted Darrell Osteen his fourteenth victory of the season when Knoxville edged Chattanooga, 6-5, August 13.

Southern Averages

(Including Games of August 16)
Compiled by Friend News Service

BATTING									
Player—Club	G.	AB.	H.	HR.	RBI.	Pct.			
White, Knoxville	50	193	65	2	14	.337			
Reimer, Knoxville	116	449	142	14	67	.316			
Josephson, Lynch.	103	361	113	10	58	.313			
White, Columbus	118	476	144	18	52	.303			
Franklin, Montgom.	101	303	91	7	37	.300			
Debus, Birmingham	49	147	44	2	24	.299			
Chandana, Chatt.	68	204	59	9	47	.288			
Kushner, Knoxville	110	372	107	10	47	.288			
Santana, Asheville	106	395	113	4	54	.286			
Voss, Lynchburg	110	383	108	15	62	.282			
Umphlett, Charlotte	116	417	116	12	61	.278			
Comer, Montgomery	107	387	107	7	44	.276			
McFarlane, Asheville	67	229	63	15	45	.275			
Oliver, Asheville	109	389	107	15	68	.275			
Andrew, Lynchburg	87	303	83	0	17	.274			
Kublak, Birmingham	115	442	121	4	27	.274			
Mendoza, Charlotte	119	467	128	4	33	.274			
Clark, Charlotte	107	348	95	6	34	.273			

PITCHING									
Pitcher—Club	G.	IP.	SO.	W.	L.	ERA.			
Downs, Columbus	35	64	54	4	0	1.13			
Clendenin, Chat'ooga	16	91	48	4	4	1.48			
Holtgrave, Mont'ery	29	61	55	3	3	1.48			
Przytycki, Columbus	34	76	49	6	5	1.66			
Walker, Chattanooga	34	76	78	7	3	1.89			
Walker, Asheville	23	153	157	10	7	2.12			
Harrell, Chattanooga	40	72	61	5	3	2.13			
Morris, Chattanooga	18	105	65	5	8	2.14			
Fisher, Montgomery	25	170	121	13	5	2.22			
Spurgin, Columbus	29	65	38	3	0	2.24			
Galligan, Knoxville	6	35	26	2	1	2.34			
Lizandro, Lynchburg	17	118	38	9	2	2.38			
Fletcher, Montgomery	7	45	41	0	4	2.38			
Whitby, Charlotte	21	157	98	7	7	2.47			
Messery, Chat'ooga	42	80	64	4	5	2.48			

Returning to the mound the next night, Osteen added five more scoreless stanzas before his streak was broken in a 4-2 loss to the Lookouts. The defeat was his eighth for the righthander, who appeared in his thirty-third game.

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