

# Dean Never Lost Cool in No-Hit Heat

## Chance Kidded in Dugout, Stayed Calm After Game

By MAX NICHOLS

TWIN CITIES, Minn.

Not even a telephone call from Hubert Humphrey, Vice-President of the United States, could upset Dean Chance's "cool."

It was his night at Cleveland's Municipal Stadium, the night this 17-game winner of the Twins pitched his first professional nine-inning **no-hitter** for a 2-1 victory August 25.

And Chance spoke, without emotion or visible elation, to Humphrey. Then the 26-year-old righthander said:

"That was Humphrey. He's a real fan, a great baseball man. Just wanted to say nice going to me and all the guys. He calls all the time and talks to the guys."

Humphrey is a long-time baseball fan. He used to watch from the roof at old Nicollet Park when he was mayor of Minneapolis and the Millers were in the American Association. And many times he has visited the Twins' dressing room—as U. S. Senator from Minnesota and then as Vice-President.

But that's just the topper of the many ways Chance kept calm throughout his no-hitter—and during the dressing room celebration that followed.

"It sounds fishy," Chance said. "But I like people—large crowds around me screaming and hollering. That's why I say my biggest thrill ever was winning the state high school basketball championship when I was 16 years old."

### Dean's Parents Present

"The crowd was all around me. I had hit a late bucket in a close finish and was sort of a hero."

Chance was only 50 miles from his Wooster, O., home when he cut down the Indians without a hit. But the game was played almost in privacy—with about 4,000 fans left of the 10,519 that paid for the double-header. His **no-hitter** was the second game.

Chance's parents, and his high school coach, Dan Baker, were there. But not even Wilmer Chance, Dean's father, was as certain as Chance was.

"I don't want to say I've got ice water in my veins," said the man Bill Rigney once called Blue Chip, "but, in four years, I've lost only two games in which I had a lead by the eighth inning."

### No Tenseness

"I've had to pitch in tight games all through my career. I hate to lose close ones when I get a lead."

"I think having to pitch in so many games like that, and winning 13 games by 1-0, were good preparation for pitching a **no-hitter**. I don't think I ever was tense. And I knew it was a **no-hitter**."

"I've been through too much in this business to get steamed up

### Dean's Forkball Straight As String in High School

TWIN CITIES, Minn.—Dean Chance pitched 18 no-hit games in high school. And his basketball coach, Dan Baker, also worked with him some in baseball.

"When he was in high school, he tried to throw a forkball, a one-fingered curve and a screwball," said Baker. "They were all straight as a string. Then I asked him to show me his fast ball. It broke so sharply it was as crooked as a dog's hind leg."

The closest Dean ever came previously to a full-length no-hitter in professional baseball was in 1962, when he pitched a one-hitter against Minnesota for California. Zoilo Versalles stopped that one with one out in the ninth inning by rapping a single.

## Easy Does It

(See Page 22 for box score of twilight game of double-header.)

NIGHT GAME											
Min'sota	ab	r	h	rbi	Cleveland	ab	r	h	rbi		
Carew, 2b	5	0	1	0	Maye, lf	2	1	0	0		
Uhl'nder, cf	4	0	1	0	Davalillo, cf	3	0	0	0		
Tovar, 3b	4	1	1	0	Hinton, rf	3	0	0	0		
Oliva, rf	3	1	2	0	Horton, lb	4	0	0	0		
Killeb'w, lb	3	0	2	1	Alvis, 3b	3	0	0	0		
Val'spino, lf	4	0	0	0	Azcue, c	3	0	0	0		
Zim'rman, c	3	0	0	0	Fuller, 2b	1	0	0	0		
Hern'dez, ss	3	0	0	0	Whit'ld, ph	1	0	0	0		
Reese, ph	1	0	0	0	Gonzalez, 2b	0	0	0	0		
Versalles, ss	0	0	0	0	Brown, ss	3	0	0	0		
Chance, p	3	0	0	0	Siebert, p	2	0	0	0		
					Wagner, ph	1	0	0	0		
Totals	33	2	7	1	Culver, p	0	0	0	0		

Minnesota	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Cleveland	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Minnesota	IP.	H.	R.	ER.	BB.	SO.			
Chance (W. 17-9)	9	0	1	1	5	9			
Cleveland	IP.	H.	R.	ER.	BB.	SO.			
Siebert (L. 6-11)	8	7	2	2	2	7			
Culver	1	0	0	0	1	0			

E—Tovar. DP—Minnesota 2, Cleveland 1. LOB—Minnesota 8, Cleveland 3. 2B—Carew. HBP—By Siebert (Chance). WP—Chance, Culver. Balk—Siebert. U—Napp, Umont, Kinnamon and Valentine. T—2:48. A—10,519.

over a **no-hitter**. It was nice. But it didn't mean that much."

It didn't bother Chance that the **no-hitter** was marred by a first-inning run—the result of two walks, an error and a wild pitch. What meant most to him was that it lifted the Twins into first place in the American League that night.

He admitted there is one thrill that could top his state prep championship in basketball.

"The World Series," he said. "I went to it in person for the first time last year. And that was a thrill—all those people. That's what I'm pitching for. I want a shot at that more than zero hits. Now you're talking thrills."

Twin teammates and coaches verified Chance's nonchalance during the game.

### No-Hitter Never Mentioned

"He was loose all right," said Bob Allison, on the bench throughout the game because of a leg injury. "No one talked about the no-hitter on the bench. But we all knew what was happening."

"I was kidding him after he struck out in the ninth inning. I told him he was looking for a fast ball and fanned on a curve. He laughed and kidded right back."

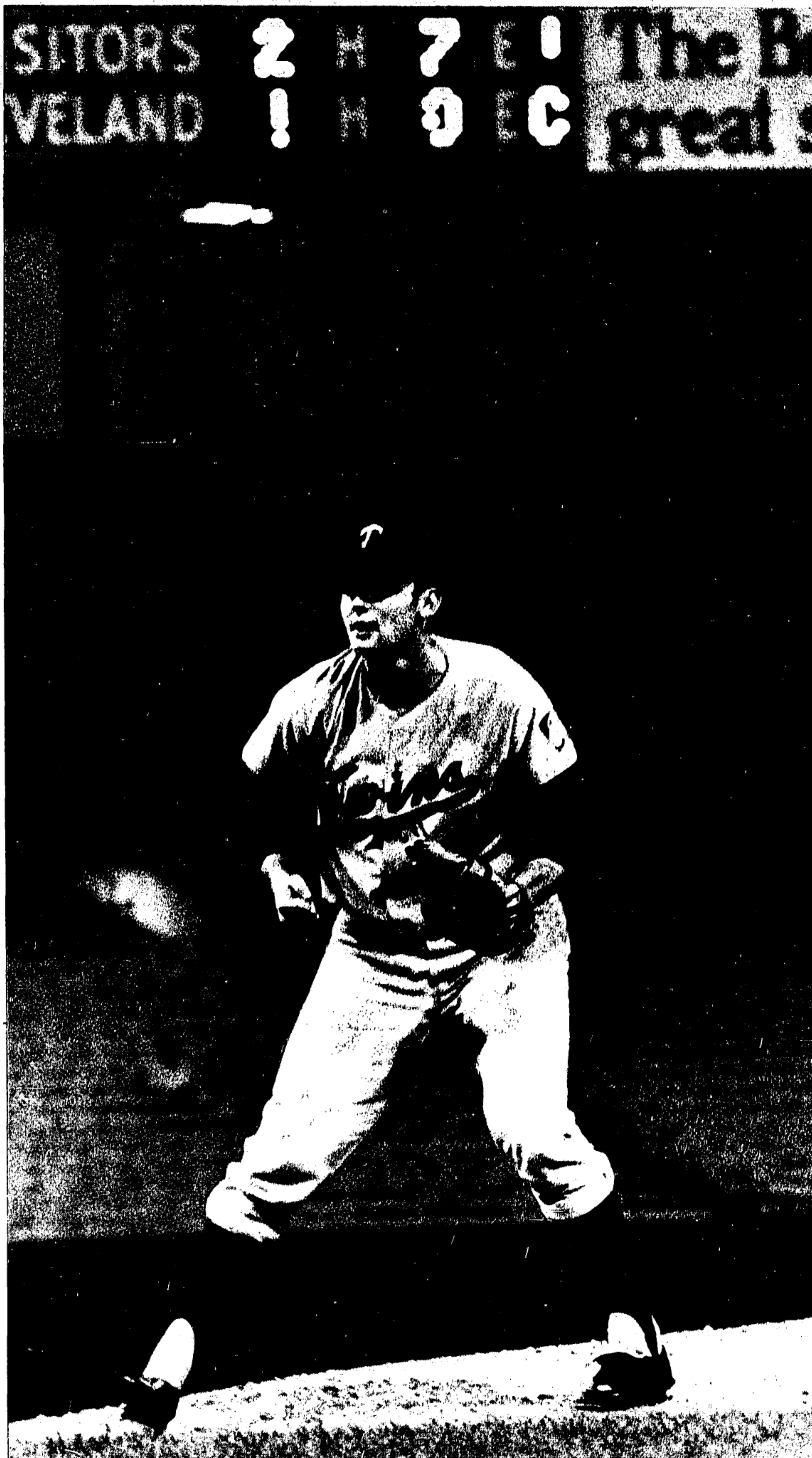
Coach Early Wynn and catcher Jerry Zimmerman talked with Chance often between innings on the bench.

"I saw Bob Feller, Bob Lemon and Sonny Siebert pitch no-hitters for Cleveland," said Wynn. "And they all were calm. So was Chance. Sometimes we talked over the hitters coming up the next inning. There was no tension in his eyes or face. He was all business."

Zimmerman had caught Chance's five-inning rain-shortened perfect game at Metropolitan Stadium August 6 against Boston. But this was Zimmy's first nine-inning no-hitter.

"He was wild with both his fast ball and his curve the first inning," Zimmerman said. "But his stuff was about like it was in that perfect game—great. The ball was really moving."

Chance said he never really gained his sharpest control. He threw



Dean Chance . . . And the No-Hit Legend on the Cleveland Scoreboard

95 pitches, walking five and striking out seven. "I was a little wild the whole game," he said. Before the game, he had walked only 15 in 61 innings during nine mound appearances following the All-Star break.

Chance's father, who never played baseball, said he asked Baker in the ninth inning what he thought.

"We both said we didn't think he would make it," said Mr. Chance, who, like Dean, farms near Wooster. "He surprised me—going so far. But he always could throw hard. And he's always done well in everything under pressure."

## Flareup Ends With a Handshake

TWIN CITIES, Minn.—Knockdown pitches spiced Dean Chance's 2-1, no-hit victory for Minnesota over Cleveland.

Chance brushed back Lee Maye and Tony Horton of the Indians. Sonny Siebert knocked down Harmon Killebrew and hit Chance. But Chance never retaliated after he was hit.

Siebert, who pitched a **no-hitter** last year, walked toward Chance at first base after he had hit the Twins' righthander. "I thought he said something about he was going to take care of me," Siebert said.

But the two shook hands long after the game when Siebert visited Chance in the Twins' dressing room.