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Gene Mauch resigns as Twins manager

By Tom Briere
Staff Writer

Saying he was not satisfied he was making a proper contribution to the team, Gene Mauch resigned Sunday as manager of the Minnesota Twins.

Twins President Calvin Griffith named third base coach John Goryl as manager "for the remainder of 1980," adding: "We'll consider next year at season's end."

(Related articles in sports section.)

After the Twins lost 3-2 to Detroit yesterday — their 71st loss in 125 games — Mauch closed the clubhouse doors for five minutes to bid his players good-by and tell them: "I'll be pulling for you."

In the manager's office, Mauch told the media:

"I feel the responsibility for the general play of this ball club and am not satisfied that I'm making the proper contribution. I suggested to Calvin Thursday that in reevaluating his club for the future it might be well to do so in a different atmosphere."

"I hate the word 'quit' and I want to avoid using it. I don't think that I'm quitting. I just think it might be better for the players to hear different words from a different manager under a less-tense atmosphere than I represent."

Mauch's resignation could hardly be termed surprising. When the Indians swept a four-game series in Cleve-

land in mid-June, he said: "I feel like I'm taking money under false pretenses. The club obviously needs help and I can't give it to them."

The next day Mauch held a special meeting with the players in Toronto and told them that he might not be around "tomorrow, next week or next year." He had been giving signs of leaving for the last month and said the last road trip through Baltimore, Oakland and California, where the Twins lost nine straight games, probably crystallized his thoughts.

Asked if he planned to continue in baseball, he replied: "I have nothing in mind right now, but I don't know how I could ever stay completely out of baseball."

Mauch will return to his home in Palm Springs, Calif., this week and speculation is that he will hear from San Diego and perhaps California about managing next season. He'd enjoy working closer to home, although when the general manager's job at San Diego was mentioned a while back, Mauch said: "I wouldn't want to be tied to the telephone for 12 months of the year, seven months as a manager is enough."

In leaving, Mauch gave up remuneration due him in 1981, the final year of a three-year contract signed in late July of 1978. The contract's final year was worth an estimated \$100,000, plus expenses.

Mauch, in his 21st season as a major-

Staff Photo by Richard Olsenius

Gene Mauch, left, who resigned Sunday as manager of the Minnesota Twins, and third base coach John Goryl waited as Twins owner Calvin Griffith announced that Goryl would be the interim manager.

Twins continued on page 6A