

## EX-GOPHER UNDECIDED ON FUTURE

**Giel Quits: 'Baseball Isn't My Game'**By **SID HARTMAN**

Minneapolis Tribune Staff Writer

Paul Giel, Minnesota pitcher traded to the Kansas City Athletics, Saturday decided to retire from baseball.

The 28-year-old former All-American Minnesota football and baseball star made his decision Friday night after Washington pounded him for six hits and seven runs in 1 $\frac{2}{3}$  innings of relief pitching.

He told Athletics' manager Joe Gordon of his decision after the game and made it official Saturday morning when he conferred with Kansas City general manager Frank Lane.

Giel, originally signed for \$63,000 by the New York Giants, was sold to Pittsburgh and was purchased last winter by the Twins from the Pirates.

"I've been considering the possibility of dropping

out of baseball for some time," Giel said from Washington. "Like most players who are having a tough time, I tried to stay calm and tell myself there will be better days ahead.

"However, a person can only say this for so long and finally must make a decision.

"I've always tried to be very honest and objective about myself and I have reached a decision that baseball isn't my game. Perhaps I lack the physical ability to make it in the major leagues. Consequently, rather than just hang on or continue in the minors I decided to quit baseball.

"Baseball has been good to me. I'm sorry I couldn't give more to baseball."

Giel said that when he joined Kansas City his intentions were to stay in baseball.

"I tried hard in my first outing with Kansas City,"

said Paul. "I was relaxed and thought I had good stuff. But when this turned out to be a disappointing appearance it just kind of blew the lid off and caused me to quit.

"The timing of my decision will no doubt look bad to many people since I had just joined the Kansas City club. But sometimes things happen when you least expect them or want them to happen.

"I have no immediate plans but will go back to Minneapolis to think over my future."

Giel said he had been confident this spring of his ability to pitch for the Twins.

"I had some pretty low spots once the season started," said Paul. "My failure to pitch well was starting to bother me mentally. So it's best to call it quits."

Paul's combined record

with the Athletics and Twins this year showed 13 games, 20 $\frac{2}{3}$  innings, 30 hits, 28 earned runs and an earned run average of 12.20. He walked 19 and struck out 14.



**PAUL GIEL**  
*'Honest, objective'*

**Paul Giel calls it quits.**

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