

Minnie Minoso Signs To Play With White Sox

By SANDY PADWE
UPI Sports Writer

The Chicago White Sox broke camp Wednesday and the happiest person aboard the northbound train was Minnie Minoso, who was heading "home" again.

The all-time White Sox favorite was signed Wednesday by General Manager Ed Short just two years after Chicago had traded him to St. Louis for Joe Cunningham.

But at age 40, Minoso still had enough left to scratch his way back, even though a series of injuries at St. Louis and Washington threatened his colorful career.

"I'm back home again. I never expected it. It's like a dream," Minoso said as a wide grin crossed his face. "Legs fine, I feel I can still do it."

Utility Duty
Short said that Minoso, a free agent this spring, would be used as a spare outfielder and a pinch-hitter.

"If he has one more year left, he's more likely to have it in Chicago," Short said.

Minoso's signing was about the biggest news from Grapefruit and Cactus land Wednesday although the Cleveland Indians might tend to disagree.

The Indians hit three home runs in Fresno, Calif., off Billy O'Dell to beat the San Francisco Giants, 14-4, for the first time in 10 games this spring.

Max Alvis and Leon Wagner hit two-run homers for Cleveland and Johnny Romano added a solo shot. Orlando Cepeda homered for San Francisco.

Cubs Nab Red Sox
A single by Dick Bertell gave the Chicago Cubs a 7-6, 11th-inning victory over the Boston Red Sox.

Ed Bressoud, Frank Malzone and Lu Clinton hit home runs for the Red Sox while Andre Rodgers and Ernie Banks connected for the Cubs.

The St. Louis Cardinals defeated the New York Yankees in St. Petersburg, Fla., when Julian Javier lined a two-run homer off rookie relief pitcher Pete Mikkelsen in the eighth inning.

The Los Angeles Dodgers split their squad in two Wednesday and wound up losing both games. One team lost to Pittsburgh, 11-1, while the other lost to Philadelphia, 11-4.

Home runs by rookies Alex Johnson and Richie Allen accounted for five of the Phillies' runs. Dick Schofield, Roberto Clemente and Willie Stargell hit home runs for the Pirates in the other contest.

Mets Hang On
The New York Mets built up an early 9-0 lead and then in typical fashion had to struggle for an 11-9 victory over the Kansas City A's. The Mets had 15 hits, with Ron Hunt and Ed Kranepool collecting three each. Catcher Bill Bryan had four of Kansas City's 16 safeties.

Pinch-hitter John Goryl hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth and gave the Minnesota Twins a 5-4 victory this year than I was leading into last year's Masters."

Palmer's hopes for becoming the first four-time winner (he took the Masters in '58, '60 and '62) are based on improved putting.

"My trouble so far this year has been chiefly putting," Palmer said. "I've had a bunch of three-putt greens. I've had the yips and couldn't concentrate. But now I feel I can master those putting."

Change Listed In Jackets' Schedule

Bill McCollum, Decatur high school baseball coach, announced today a change in the schedule. The Decatur team will play Portland next Wednesday in a 4 p.m. game at Worthman Field. The contest was originally scheduled for May 15 at night. McCollum said an attempt is being made to hold either the May 11 game with Columbia City or the May 14 game with Bluffton under the lights at Worthman field. The Decatur team was scheduled to open the season this afternoon at Van Wert, weather permitting.

Masters Open Is Underway At Augusta Today

AUGUSTA, Ga. (UPI)—Hopeful Arnold Palmer gets a 30 minutes head start on everybody's favorite Jack Nicklaus today when the power boys take on the field in the opening round of the famed Masters golf tournament.

Palmer, the three-time champion who is still looking for his first tournament victory of the year, tees off at noon with young Labron Harris Jr., the 1962 National Amateur champion.

Nicklaus, the 24-year-old Columbus, Ohio, bomber who seeks to become the first defending champion to put a pair of Masters' victories back-to-back, tees off at 12:30 p.m. EST with Downing Gray, the man Harris beat 1-up two years ago for that amateur crown.

Nicklaus Hits Longest
Palmer and Nicklaus are both 3 to 1 choices but a run of heavy rain that has left the Augusta National course soggy is expected to be advantageous to Nicklaus because he hits the longest, highest drives of any of the 96 starters in this 27th Masters.

The weatherman was predicting all systems "go" with clear, mild weather expected after torrential rains washed out two of the last three days of practice. Most of the golfers were able to play out the tricky, 6,980-yard course only on Tuesday.

Nicklaus went into today's opening round full of confidence. "I feel I have been playing much better up to this point this year than I was leading into last year's Masters."

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Furgol Disagrees

Although most favor the power hitters for the tournament, former U.S. Open champion Ed Furgol casts a dissenting vote.

"No man living has a lock on any golf tournament today," Furgol said, noting that there have been 16 different winners in the last 16 outings.

"Nicklaus and Palmer have to control their motions as much as the most lightly regarded entrant in the field," Furgol added. "It's the good putter who will win, no matter what they say."

Jimmy Demaret, a three-time Masters champion, agreed with Furgol.

Jackets, Van Wert Play Here Today

The Decatur Yellow Jackets will open their baseball season at Worthman field this afternoon, coach Bill McCollum said this morning.

The game, which is the season opener for the Decatur nine, was originally scheduled to be played at Van Wert, but wet grounds there forced moving the contest to Decatur.

Game time will be around 5:30 p.m. A track meet is scheduled for the field also today, and the baseball game will start immediately after the meet between Decatur and Rockford, O.

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K. of C. League

W L Pts.

Villa Lanes 24 12 34

New York Life 23 13 31

Lengerich 20 16 29

Baker Plumbing 21 15 27

Jack & Jerry's 20 16 26

Girardot 17 19 23

Main Auto 13 23 16

Baker Painters 6 30 7

High team series — Main Auto

2329, New York Life 2277, Villa

Lanes 2242, Jack & Jerry's 2227.

High team games — Main Auto

480, New York Life 796-751, Jack

& Jerry's 766, Villa Lanes 792,

Baker Plumbing 784.

High series — Joe Gremaux

524, Joe Kohne 507.

High game — Joe Gremaux

211.

Sportsmen League

W L Pts.

Uhrick Bros. 24 12 34

Margaret's Cafe 19 17 26

Villa Lanes 19 17 25

Moose Progress 18 18 24

Vost Const. 17 1/2 18 1/2 23 1/2

Country Acres 18 18 23

Bowers Bros. 15 21 19

Do-Marine 13 1/2 22 1/2 17 1/2

High games — Ed Feasel 235,

Lloyd Reef 557, Wilbur Lengerich

538, Fritz Baker 535, Dick Len-

gerich 532, Fred Dellingen 531,

Jim Loshe 526, Ken Funk 513,

Larry Stevens 511, Charles Clark

508, Marvin Lautzenheiser 500,

Larry Chisman 500.

High series — Ed Feasel 595,

Lloyd Reef 557, Wilbur Lengerich

532, Fred Dellingen 531,

Jim Loshe 526, Ken Funk 513,

Larry Stevens 511, Charles Clark

508, Marvin Lautzenheiser 500,

High team game — Schwartz

10.

Rural League

W L Pts.

Adams Builders 24 12 33

Baugh's 21 15 29

McBride & Son 21 15 29

Schwarz Ford 22 14 28

Decatur Kocher 20 1/2 15 1/2 27 1/2

Miller-Jones Shoes 21 15 26

Sheets Furniture 18 1/2 17 1/2 25 1/2

Weber's Bath 19 15 25

Jaycees 18 18 24

McConnell's 17 19 23

"7" Up 15 1/2 20 1/2 21 1/2

Reidenbach Equip. 17 19 21

Stucky Furniture 14 22 20

Barkley Const. 14 22 19

Parkway "66" 14 1/2 21 1/2 19

Decatur Industries 11 25 14

High team game: Schwartz

Ford 909.

High team series: Adams

Builders 2560.

High games: R. Ewell 229, C.

Bluhn 226, E. Bulmahn 225, W.

Myers 217; J. Irwin 217, R. Bal-

lard 211, N. Thatcher 210, F.

Becker 212, L. Worden 207, R.

Ballard 206, D. Gruber 204, H.

Bittner 201, L. McBride 200.

High series: W. Myers 576, R.

Ballard 567, R. Ewell 564, N.

Bultemeier 554, F. Becker 546,

A. Bulmahn 545, D. Wynn 543,

A. Chamberlain 540, C. Bluhn

529, F. Lybarger 524, K. Jack-

son 522, J. Irwin 519, R. Geimer

517, N. Thatcher 514, D. Gruber

513, C. Barkley 507, J. Hart 505,

M. Lautzenheiser 503, R. Eloph

502, W. Bultemeier 500.

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Chic Cleaners 40 50 56

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