

# DeBartolo gets support in bid to buy White Sox

**by Jerome Holtzman**  
Chicago Sun-Times

CHICAGO — Edward J. DeBartolo, Sr., who is likely to win in a landslide, is increasing the pace in his campaign to take over ownership of the Chicago White Sox baseball team.

DeBartolo jetted from his Youngstown, Ohio, headquarters to Detroit yesterday, met for three hours with two American League owners, and when he returned home in the late afternoon discovered he had at least another vote in his pocket.

Calvin Griffith, owner of the Minnesota Twins who previously was listed in the anti-DeBartolo group, said he would cast his ballot for DeBartolo now that the Ohio bidder has pledged to keep the team in Chicago.

Griffith said he was "dumb-founded" when he read published reports that included him among

the five owners against DeBartolo's impending White Sox purchase.

"I never said I was against him," Griffith said. "What I said was I didn't want anybody moving the White Sox out of Chicago. If DeBartolo says he won't move the club, that's good enough for me."

"I haven't met the gentleman, but I haven't heard anybody speak badly of the guy . . ."

**Griffith's vote increases** DeBartolo's count to seven, only three short of election. The White Sox, Baltimore, Cleveland, New York, California and Oakland have made previous pledges to DeBartolo.

Moreover, there are indications that DeBartolo could wind up with as much as a 13-1 or 12-2 majority — this despite the warnings of Commissioner Bowie Kuhn and A.L. President Lee MacPhail, who have been insisting the wealthy

Ohioan would not gain league approval.

In addition to Griffith, DeBartolo may be in the process of converting two other owners reportedly against him, Allan (Bud) Selig of Milwaukee and John Fetzer of Detroit.

Responding to DeBartolo's request for an informal hearing, Selig and Fetzer met with him for 2½ hours yesterday in Detroit.

DeBartolo, who is trying to keep a low profile — "I don't want them to be angry with me," he said — refused to indicate whether he had won Selig or Fetzer to his side. But a source close to DeBartolo described the meeting as "very encouraging."

Selig chairs the league committee that screens potential owners. Ewing Kauffman, the autocratic owner of the Kansas City Royals, was supposed to be at the Detroit meeting but was unable to

attend. DeBartolo will visit with Kauffman later.

Also on the DeBartolo itinerary are meetings with the owners of the Texas and Toronto clubs, and possibly a handshake in Minneapolis with Minnesota's Griffith.

**It appears likely** that, at the most, two clubs — the Boston Red Sox and Seattle Mariners — will not grant DeBartolo a hearing.

Mrs. Jean Yawkey, who doesn't own but, nonetheless, controls the Red Sox, is said to have been peeved with DeBartolo ever since he made an unsuccessful attempt to buy the Boston club after the death of her husband.

The Seattle owners (all five of them) are not believed to be as angry. But if they approve his purchase they could be dismissing a potential buyer for their franchise, which is in severe financial distress.

The irony is that DeBartolo

made an \$11-12 million bid for the Mariners last spring. But the Seattle owners took the club off the market when advised by Kuhn that DeBartolo was not likely to win league acceptance.

Kuhn issued this same warning last Friday to the White Sox, telling them to find or recruit another buyer. Unlike the Seattle management, the 12-man White Sox board of directors defied Kuhn (and MacPhail) and last Sunday unanimously re-affirmed DeBartolo's impending \$20 million purchase.

Kuhn, from his New York City office, virtually confirmed a Chicago Sun-Times report that he had blocked DeBartolo in his bid for the Seattle franchise.

"I'm not certain I was a factor in what happened in Seattle," Kuhn said, "but it's possible."

**Kuhn also refused** to believe that opposition against DeBartolo was withering.

Assuming that DeBartolo wins A.L. approval, there remains the possibility that Kuhn may try to block the purchase with the declaration that absentee ownership is "not in the best interests of baseball."

Kuhn, in fact, made this threat last Friday when he and MacPhail met with DeBartolo in Pittsburgh. As the meeting was ending, there was the following exchange:

Kuhn: "You realize, Mr. DeBartolo, that I have veto power."

DeBartolo: "Yes, and I have the right to sue you. And I have millions of dollars to do just that."

Kuhn's most memorable and successful use of the "best interests," which gives him czar-like powers, occurred in 1975 when he negated the \$3.5 million, midseason sale of three Oakland players. Charlie Finley, A's owner, responded with a multi-million-dollar damage suit that was heard by a federal judge who ruled for Kuhn.

## Peterbilt tops Santa Rosa to stay unbeaten in nationals

DECATUR, Ill. — Bill Stewart continued his sizzling batting, blasting two, two-run home runs last night to lead unbeaten Peterbilt of Seattle to a 4-0 win over Santa Rosa, Calif., in the American Softball Association national-fastpitch tournament.

Stewart accounted for all the Peterbilt runs, setting his four-game tournament average at .750 (9 for 12). He has four homers, three doubles and 11 runs batted in. The Seattle club is one of only two teams still unbeaten.

Graham Arnold hurled last night's win, a six-hitter in which he struck out five.

## Action takes P.G.A. title

RICHLAND — (AP) — Rick Acton of Kirkland snaked in a 10-foot putt to par the final hole yesterday and win the Pacific Northwest Professional Golfers Association championship by one stroke over Mike Davis and Fred Haney.

Acton's final-round 75 gave him a 2-over-par 218 for the 54-hole tournament.

Davis, of Bend, Ore., had a final-round 70. He has been runner-up in the tourney four of the past five years. Haney, the defending champion from Portland, had a final-round of 72.

Acton held a four-stroke edge starting the final round.

Chuck Milne, Vancouver, Wash., and George Lanning, Tacoma, tied for fourth at 221. Bill Eggers of Portland was sixth with 222.

Rounding out the top 10 were Chris Smith, 223; Bob Duden, 225; Jerry Mowlds, 225, all of Portland, and Bob Allard, 226, Tacoma.

## Is there a secret behind prevention of Sox sale?

**C**HICAGO — This toddlin' town was the scene, more than 60 years ago, of the biggest scandal ever to hit baseball, before and after.

That was the World Series scam, in which some of the White Sox conspired to throw the Series.

The plot was uncovered and the culprits duly punished, some with banishment from baseball for life. And there was the famous cartoon in which a little kid said to Shoeless Joe Jackson, one of those who was barred, "Say it ain't so, Joe."

In that context, the latest baseball scuffle here about the White Sox appears to be of small importance, except to those who are trying to sell the club. And to Edward DeBartolo, Sr., who is trying to buy it.

Various, Commissioner Bowie Kuhn and Lee MacPhail, president of the American League, have said DeBartolo, an Ohio businessman, is too deep into horse racing and that they fear he might try to move the Sox to New Orleans.

Denials by DeBartolo and his willingness to post a bond against movement of the club have been of no avail. And some Chicagoans have expressed suspicions that there are other, deeper reasons for the official frowns on the DeBartolo deal.

The horse-racing facet can be dismissed. As you already know, other baseball club owners, like George Steinbrenner of the New York Yankees and John Galbreath of the Pittsburgh Pirates, are involved with the ponies.

**The other fear**, that of a Sox move to Louisiana, may have more root in reality. The \$20 million which DeBartolo is willing to pay for the Sox includes Comiskey Park.

DeBartolo, if he gets the club, will not be tethered by a lease, as was Charlie Finley in Oakland. Among his other business interests,



**HY ZIMMERMAN**  
Times staff reporter

DeBartolo builds shopping centers. One is the Alderwood Mall in Lynnwood, Wash.

If he tired of Chicago, he could tear down the ball park and put a shopping center in its stead, meanwhile heading for a better pasture for his ballplayers.

The puzzlement in Seattle is the sudden concern by Kuhn and MacPhail for Chicago's retention of its American League club. In the recent past, MacPhail and his club owners, at least, were willing, nay anxious, to transfer the White Sox to Seattle.

That move would have aborted the Seattle suit against the American League and would have precluded the expansion into Seattle and Toronto, into which the league was dragged, screaming.

In fact, so eager were they for that transfer, the purchase price of the Sox was hiked by \$1.5 million in order to put Bill Veeck out of the market. However, Veeck, in almost a last-minute move, did raise the extra money and the Sox stayed put.

To this day, Veeck charges that an article in The Seattle Times caused the price to be jacked up. But it was the league's desire to transfer the Sox which saw the price increased.

**So, the concern cannot** be with the possible transfer of the Sox to New Orleans if DeBartolo acquires the club. For one thing, he is too much of a businessman to settle in the Superdome, where it costs more than twice as much to open the doors than in any ball park in the land.

And then there is yesterday's report that Kuhn squashed a possible DeBartolo deal for the Mariners.

So, unless there are reasons which so far have not been aired, both Kuhn and MacPhail are playing the holier-than-thou nuance to death.

Years ago, baseball made Al Kaline, then a Detroit Tiger star, divest himself of a race horse in which he was partners with Gordie Howe, then a Detroit Red Wing hockey great.

That was public-relations piety. Ever see a horse at a hockey or baseball game? And don't mention Finley's mule.

The White Sox, at this point, are rocky financially. They need money, for player acquisition, for their farm system.

And here is a fellow, DeBartolo, with enough scratch to buy several ball clubs. But Kuhn and MacPhail don't want him. The reasons forwarded so far don't wash. So what is the deep, dark secret?

## Sounders heading home

Alan Hinton, Seattle Sounders coach, has been meeting this week with his players to review the North American Soccer League season before they head for vacations.

David Nish, Jeff Bourne and Steve Buttle were due to leave for England today. John Ryan, Bruce Rioch and Tommy Hutchison already have departed.

Jack Brand, goalie, plans to drive to Washington, D.C., for Soccer Bowl, then head for Germany. Roger Davies, recuperating from a foot operation this week, said he will visit England when he is cleared medically.

Hinton and Jack Daley, Sounders president, both will attend Soccer Bowl. Hinton will be honored as "coach of the year" at the annual league banquet.

Greg Makowski, fullback who had a knee operation last January, has returned to St. Louis.

Hinton said he is undecided on his roster for Seattle's first N.A.S.L. Indoor League season, beginning in mid-November. Games will be played in the Kingdom.

Buttle, who starred for Pittsburgh in the Major Indoor Soccer League last winter, will be playing for Seattle, along with Mike Ivanov in goal.

"We'll have a good competitive indoor team," Hinton said. "It's just a matter of deciding who the players will be. I'm looking at the numbers we'll need. It might be more in the interest of our younger players to go to England. We haven't come to that decision yet."

Last winter, Seattle sent Mark Peterson, Jeff Stock and Eddie

Krueger to England for soccer training.

"In England they see that soccer is an institution there. I think that is more important than the coaching they get. I've told Fred Hamel how pleased I am with his progress, and the same with Brian Schmetscher."

Schmetscher and Hamel were signed out of Seattle high schools last spring.

The Sounders' indoor team will begin gathering October 20, with practice officially opening October 27.

**Cal cager transfers**

BERKELEY, Calif. — (UPI) — Kevin Sparks, University of California basketball player, has transferred to Loyola Marymount.

## M'S AVERAGES

| BATTING     |     |      |     |    |    |     |      |  |    |   |    |    |
|-------------|-----|------|-----|----|----|-----|------|--|----|---|----|----|
|             | AB  | H    | 2B  | 3B | HR | RBI | Avg  |  | AB | H | 2B | 3B |
| Allen       | 457 | 138  | 29  | 10 | 67 | 302 | .302 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Bachie      | 376 | 105  | 18  | 1  | 15 | 57  | .279 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Pacorek     | 272 | 131  | 24  | 38 | 63 | 278 | .278 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Traver      | 128 | 52   | 5   | 1  | 5  | 27  | .277 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Stein       | 51  | 14   | 3   | 0  | 1  | 5   | .275 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Wolton      | 216 | 58   | 6   | 0  | 14 | 269 | .269 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Alibourne   | 337 | 88   | 18  | 3  | 32 | 161 | .261 |  |    |   |    |    |
| L. Roberts  | 241 | 85   | 4   | 2  | 10 | 103 | .253 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Mendoza     | 310 | 78   | 13  | 3  | 2  | 31  | .252 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Simmons     | 163 | 41   | 14  | 1  | 2  | 16  | .252 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Craig       | 157 | 39   | 9   | 0  | 2  | 22  | .249 |  |    |   |    |    |
| T. Cox      | 217 | 50   | 9   | 0  | 6  | 20  | .230 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Beniquez    | 201 | 67   | 7   | 0  | 7  | 29  | .223 |  |    |   |    |    |
| J. Anderson | 285 | 61   | 9   | 1  | 8  | 25  | .214 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Horton      | 274 | 79   | 9   | 3  | 2  | 15  | .211 |  |    |   |    |    |
| L. Cox      | 224 | 45   | 6   | 3  | 2  | 19  | .206 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Hill        | 55  | 11   | 2   | 1  | 1  | 5   | .200 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Narmon      | 66  | 9    | 1   | 0  | 7  | 5   | .134 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Edler       | 22  | 0    | 0   | 0  | 0  | 0   | .045 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Others      | 244 | 54   | 12  | 1  | 3  | 21  | .221 |  |    |   |    |    |
| Totals      | 444 | 1146 | 184 | 32 | 88 | 464 | .247 |  |    |   |    |    |

| PITCHING            |      |      |      |       |     |     |       |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------|------|------|------|-------|-----|-----|-------|--|--|--|--|--|
|                     | IP   | H    | ER   | W-L   | BB  | K   | ERA   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Heavner             | 79½  | 66   | 29   | 5-3   | 34  | 40  | 3.29  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bannister           | 177  | 165  | 66   | 8-10  | 53  | 120 | 3.34  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rowley              | 108  | 100  | 41   | 7-4   | 61  | 64  | 3.38  |  |  |  |  |  |
| D. Roberts          | 70½  | 75   | 32   | 2-3   | 22  | 38  | 4.08  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Haneycutt           | 178½ | 184  | 86   | 9-15  | 54  | 70  | 4.03  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Adoff               | 126  | 195  | 85   | 10-10 | 41  | 72  | 4.11  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dressler            | 118½ | 129  | 56   | 3-8   | 27  | 48  | 4.24  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Beattie             | 157½ | 172  | 89   | 4-13  | 38  | 63  | 5.06  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sarmiento           | 10½  | 11   | 6    | 0-1   | 3   | 12  | 5.23  |  |  |  |  |  |
| McLaughlin          | 36½  | 114  | 63   | 2-4   | 49  | 41  | 5.57  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Parrott             | 30½  | 47   | 1-13 | 3     | 4   | 24  | 6.49  |  |  |  |  |  |
| R. Anderson         | 7½   | 1    | 0-0  | 1     | 1   | 1   | 27.22 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Totals              | 1241 | 1228 | 415  | 51-87 | 469 | 617 | 4.43  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Saves               | —    | —    | —    | —     | —   | —   | —     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Robert J. Sarmiento | 1    | —    | —    | —     | —   | —   | —     |  |  |  |  |  |

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# this weekend in the TIMES

### New-generation politics

A "changing of the guard" is taking place, says David Broder, syndicated political columnist in The Times. There is a "generational shift in power and leadership — from the people whose shaping influences were the Depression and World War II, to those people born between 1930 and 1955 whose shaping experiences have included the wars in Korea and Vietnam, the 1960's civil rights marches, and Watergate." His new book, *Changing of the Guard: Power and Leadership in America*, deals with this shift in political leadership and its challenge to our future. Excerpts from this important work begin Sunday in The Times' editorial pages.

### A medical miracle

With burns over 35 per cent of her body and the added burden of many broken bones, it was touch and go whether Klara Kalland would live or die when she was brought into Harborview Medical Center after an automobile accident in Montana that claimed the lives of four other members of her family. Dale Douglas Mills, Times staff reporter, details the 11-year-old girl's months-long, painful ordeal and race against death after intensive-care treatment and numerous operations . . . Sunday in Pacific Magazine.

### Pleasure and power politics

The intermingling of pleasure with politics is unavoidable while traveling in Argentina and Chile — "two countries where the human-rights issue is kept at a white heat," says Rosella Broyles, Times travel reporter. But, "the traveler who goes to those places will be richer for it. I would return to either one at the first opportunity." She reports on the inaugural flight of Braniff's new 747/SP from Los Angeles to Buenos Aires and her experiences there in the first of a series of articles on South America . . . Sunday in the Travel section.

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