

Houston Astros shortstop Rafael Landestoy charges to his left to scoop up a ground ball. Batting in the leadoff slot Wednesday night, Landestoy collected two hits in four trips to the plate and scored the winning run in the Astros' 1-0 win over San Francisco. Photo by Pat O'Malley

Forsch ends dry spell

Astros edge Giants

United Press International
Ken Forsch hadn't won since the All-Star break, although he says he has pitched well enough. A look at the Astros' batting statistics supplies the explanation.

Wednesday was not much different offensively, except that Forsch was able to keep any San Francisco Giants from scoring. That made Terry Puhl's RBI good enough to give the Astros a 1-0 decision and maintain their place on top of the Western Division.

As rare as an Astro home run is a complete game for an Astro pitcher, but Forsch spread six Giants hits over nine innings to give the generally active bullpen a night off.

"I had been struggling since the All-Star break," Forsch said. "I have pitched well but just haven't won. I had confidence despite my recent bad luck. I had good command of all my pitches tonight and good control. I threw harder tonight and finally broke my slump."

Forsch, 9-9, pitched his second shutout of the year while notching his third complete game of the season. The right-hander struck out six and walked one.

The game was a test of Forsch's control over that of Giants starter Vida Blue. Through the first five in-

nings the game was scoreless.

The Giants posed the first scoring threat in the sixth. Bill North singled with one out, went to second on a passed ball and was sacrificed to third by Joe Pettini. But Jack Clark flew out to short right and Mike Ivie struck out to end the threat.

The Astros followed through with their threat in the sixth. Rafael Landestoy singled off Blue, 9-6, with one out. Enos Cabell then singled and Puhl followed with his game-winning center, scoring Landestoy.

"Vida Blue threw good pitches tonight," Puhl said. "I just wanted to put my bat on the ball and Landestoy

made a heads-up play when I hit the ball."

The game-winning run was a typical Astros fashion, together several singles, one run. Never a power hit, the team is however the season's 49 total homers—the major leagues—and more home runs now than any other team in the league.

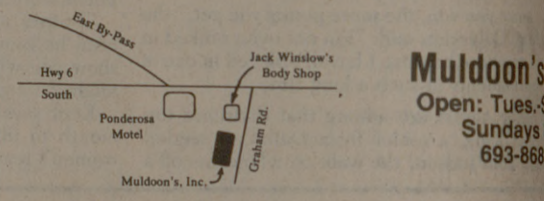
"Home runs come in waves," he said. "To hit home runs you have to get to know the pitcher. I hope I hit 20 home runs this season. I don't make no promises."

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Brewers bomb Red Sox

Milwaukee slugs 16 hits, blows Boston out

United Press International
Cecil Cooper continues to swing a red-hot bat.

Cooper went 4-for-5 to raise his average to .347, scored three runs and drove in two Wednesday night to lead the Milwaukee Brewers to a 9-4 victory over the Boston Red Sox.

The Brewers collected 16 hits off four Boston pitchers with every Milwaukee starter getting at least one hit. Gorman Thomas had a two-run homer in the first, his 24th, and Robin Yount a solo shot in the fifth, his 17th.

Milwaukee snapped a 4-4 tie in the seventh with three straight hits after two were out. With Cooper on second after singling and stealing a base, Ben Oglivie was walked intentionally. Sixto Lezcano then singled off loser Dick Drago, 4-5, to break the tie. Dick Davis followed with a single to score Oglivie and Sal Bando capped the rally with a double to score Lezcano.

The Brewers added two in the

eight on back-to-back doubles by Yount and Cooper and sacrifice fly by Oglivie.

Lary Sorensen, 8-7, went the first 6 1-3 innings before developing a blister and leaving the game. He allowed three runs in first on four straight Boston hits and a solo homer by Dwight Evans in the sixth, his 11th. Bill Castro finished up to collect his seventh save.

In other games, New York defeated Texas 2-1, Kansas City nipped Detroit 5-4, Baltimore beat Chicago 4-1, Oakland defeated Minnesota 3-1 and Cleveland beat Toronto 5-2.

Surprise starter Rudy May fired a four-hitter through 8 2-3 innings and Jim Spencer hit a solo homer to lift the Yankees. May, 9-5, walked two and struck out three before yielding Richie Zisk's 16th homer with two out in the ninth. Rich Gossage came on to notch his 16th save.

Willie Aikens' sacrifice fly capped a three-run fifth inning and Larry

Gura pitched a sixhitter through 8 1-3 innings to help the Royals sweep the Tigers. Gura raised his record to 16-4, equaling his career high in victories, before Don Quisenberry came on notch his 23rd save.

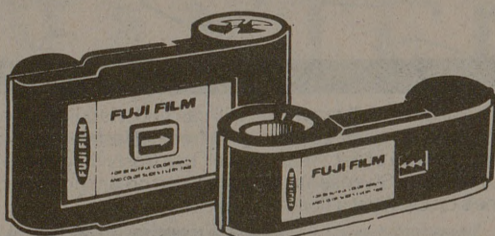
Ken Singleton and Eddie Murray hit home runs and Mike Flanagan allowed five hits through eight innings to lead the Orioles. The Orioles took a 1-0 lead in the first when Al Bumbry singled, went to second on a single by Rich Dauer and scored on Singleton's double. Baltimore made it 3-0 in the third when Dauer doubled and Singleton followed with his 14th homer.

Jim Essian and Mario Guerrero cracked run-scoring singles in a three-run seventh inning to spark the A's and hand the Twins their sixth consecutive loss. Brian Kingman, 7-11, pitched the fourth consecutive complete game for the A's. He allowed seven hits, walked two and struck out six.

Reliever Jerry Garvin walked Mike Hargrove with the bases loaded in the seventh inning to force home Rick Manning with what proved to be the inning run to lift the Indians.

In a late game, Seattle was at California.

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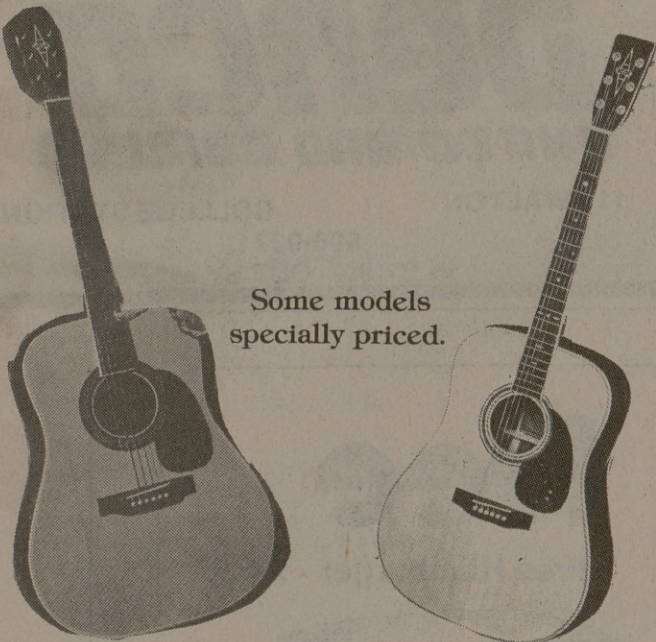
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