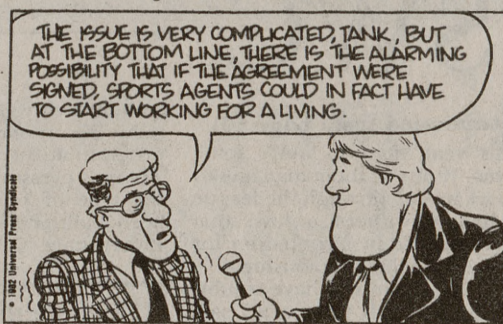


TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



# Michael fired after Yanks drop twinbill

**United Press International**  
When George Steinbrenner heard the fans chanting "Re-fund, re-fund," he cashed in his manager.

"I'm going to make this quick, I'm tired," Steinbrenner said, early Wednesday morning in announcing he had fired Gene Michael and named Clyde King interim manager until the end of the season.

Steinbrenner was infuriated by 1-0 and 14-2 losses to the Chicago White Sox that dropped the Yankees to .500 and into fifth place in the AL East.

Steinbrenner said: "I wish we could let go a lot of players who think they are a lot better than they really are. I'm not blaming Stick (Michael). I just think a change is necessary."

Michael has been offered a front-office position.

Steinbrenner ordered an announcement during Chicago's five-run sixth inning in the nightcap, telling the 34,172 fans their ticket stubs could be exchanged for free tickets to the six remaining games on the Yankee home schedule.

"I heard the chant of 'refund, re-fund,'" said Steinbrenner. "The fact of the matter is the announcement was not made to embarrass anyone. I just wanted them (the fans) to have chance to see the Yankees later when their play would be different."

In other games, Kansas City nipped Detroit, 6-5, Cleveland defeated Texas in the first game of a double-header, 2-0, and Texas took the nightcap, 5-4, in 10 innings; Milwaukee bested Toronto, 7-4; Baltimore won the first game of a twinbill, 7-2, but Boston took the second game, 7-6; Minnesota beat California, 5-4, and Seattle beat Oakland, 3-2.

In the National League, it was Chicago 5, New York 0; St. Louis 4, Pittsburgh 2; Philadelphia 3, Montreal 2; San Francisco 6, Atlanta 3; Los Angeles 4, Cincinnati 0; and Houston 7, San Diego 6 in 11 innings.

**ROYALS 6, TIGERS 5** — At Kansas City, Frank White cracked a two-out triple in the bottom of the ninth, to score Onix Concepcion from first base and lift the Royals to their sixth straight victory.

**INDIANS 2-4, RANGERS 0-5** — At Cleveland, Larry Parrish hit a three-run homer with two out in the 10th to give the Rangers a victory and a split. In the opener, Len Barker and Dan Spillner combined on a four-hitter and Ron Hassey belted a homer to pace the Indians.

**BREWERS 7, BLUE JAYS 4** — At Toronto, Cecil Cooper belted a two-run homer and Ted Simmons and Paul Molitor added solo shots to lead the Brewers.

**ORIOLES 7-6, RED SOX 2-7** — At Baltimore, Dave Stapleton blasted a two-run home run in the eighth to rally the Boston Red Sox to a homer-filled victory in the nightcap. In the first game, Rick Dempsey drove in three runs to help the Orioles snap a five-game losing streak.

**TWINS 5, ANGELS 4** — At Anaheim, California, Gary Ward smashed a two-run homer with one out in the eighth inning to carry Minnesota despite a three-homer effort by the Angels' Doug DeCinces.

**MARINERS 3, A's 2** — At Oakland, Calif., Richie Zisk extended his hitting streak to 21 games with his 15th homer of the season, to lead Seattle.

In the NL, Gary Matthews looked like an Olympic gold-medal winner Tuesday night.

"I had no play at home, he looked like Jesse Owens," Montreal first baseman Al Oliver said, after Matthews scored from second base on a grounder to highlight the Phillies' 3-2 victory over the Expos at Philadelphia. "You have to give Gary Matthews credit for playing heads-up baseball."

Manny Trillo singled home the go-ahead run to cap a three-run sixth inning that featured the daring baserunning of Matthews. Trillo's game-winning hit followed a rare two-run grounder by Bo Diaz, with the bases loaded. One run scored as Diaz was thrown out at first but Matthews, who was on second when the ball was hit, never stopped as he rounded third and scored without a throw from Oliver.

**CUBS 5, METS 0** — At Chicago, Doug Bird hurled a three-hitter and Leon Durham slammed a two-run homer in the first

inning to lead the Cubs. The Mets turned in a triple play in the eighth.

**GIANTS 6, BRAVES 3** — At Atlanta, third baseman Tim O'Malley hit a two-run homer off Gene Garber to trigger a four-run ninth.

# Scott's 11th-inning RBI sends Astros to victory

**United Press International**  
**HOUSTON** — Houston first baseman Ray Knight believes in streaks and thinks the Astros are on a hot one — finally.

Tony Scott sliced a single Tuesday night in the 11th inning to score Terry Puhl with two outs and give the Astros a 7-6 win over San Diego. Monday, the Astros erupted for five runs in the eighth inning to overcome a 4-1 deficit and down the Padres 6-4.

"I have always said that teams get hot streaks and cold streaks," Knight said. "Our team just waited a long time to have a hot streak. But everything is starting to jell now."

The Astros slumped badly through the first half of the season, but Knight said he thinks the team has played well in its last 40 games.

"We are playing up to our capabilities and getting that key base hit," Knight said.

Another key to the Astros' surge has been improved pitching, particularly from the bullpen which suffered earlier by the departure of injured ace Joe Sambito.

Randy Moffitt, who pitched the final 2½ in-

nings Monday to pick up the victory, noted the improvement among Houston relievers.

"We are getting a lot of breaks now that we didn't get earlier in the year," he said. "Our whole relief crew is doing so much better and contributing more to the team."

San Diego manager Dick Williams agreed.

"It is always tough to lose an extra inning game," he said. "We had our chances but didn't get that key hit. Houston's bullpen is doing a great job now."

"Moffitt was excellent tonight. But hey, it's a long season and we still play the Braves and the Dodgers a lot of games."

Houston took an early 1-0 lead in the second when Phil Garner walked and was brought around by singles by Howe and Luis Pujols. San Diego went ahead 3-1 in the third on singles by Garry Templeton, Sixto Lezcano and Joe Linsford and a two-run double by Luis Salazar.

Howe and Pujols hit home runs for the Astros, while the Padres' Jim Lefebvre had a pinch-hit homer in the ninth to send the game into extra innings.



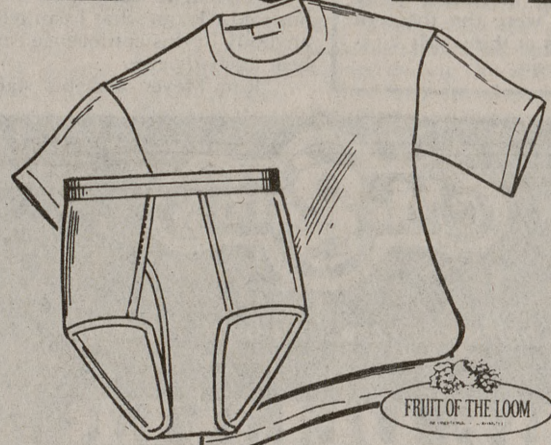
Tony Scott

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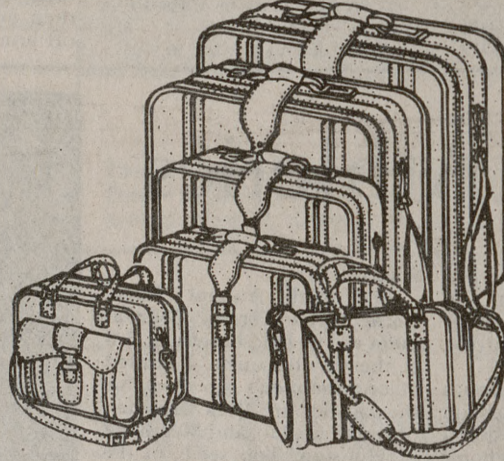
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