

# Horns — On-off Astros defy Cardinals' supremacy with offensive surge

Continued from page 17)

...was largely ineffective... the Tar Heels, but he... under the worst possible... His own lack of... didn't help any, and... conditions that made El... Anchorage made... of horror for... He was hoping this sea... would be different. It could... might not play at all... there is the sentimental... — Rick McIvor. McIvor... last season with a knee... and then missed spring... with scholastic prob... his knees and his grades... healthy, he could be the... man... we're not through... Rob Moerschell, who... for SMU's Lance... at Highland Park... when Little Mac... college... There's Danny Akers, the... son who was No. 3 on the

depth chart in the spring. And finally, there's Mark Gabrisch, who quarterbacked the Stratford Spartans to the Texas high school state championship in 1978. Gabrisch transferred to Texas from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, just to enter the quarterback sweepstakes.

Any of these players could win the starting nod when the Horns travel to Alabama to play Auburn Sept. 17. And any of them could lead Texas to a Cotton Bowl berth.

But there's no way Bevo would lead the Horns to Cotton, as several sportswriters have suggested. Though he's hard to bring down, Bevo's much too slow, has trouble throwing the ball and could seriously hurt someone should he ever get tackled.

No, Bevo won't do the trick. The Longhorns need a leader.

Not necessarily a great quarterback (no one ever accused Brewer of being an all-American), but someone who can stay out of the way and let the rest of the squad do its stuff.

Let Stanford and BYU have the passing wizards. All the Horns want is someone to keep the team together and the first downs coming, a regular guy to lead a superior team.

The word out of Austin is that Dodge, McIvor and Moerschell are running arm-for-arm-for-arm in the QB race. A spokesman in the UT Sports News Office said late Monday they are expecting Akers to release some kind of depth chart later this week.

But for now, the missing link has not been chosen. The contest is still on, the prizes still under wraps.

It's just that Bevo is out of the running.

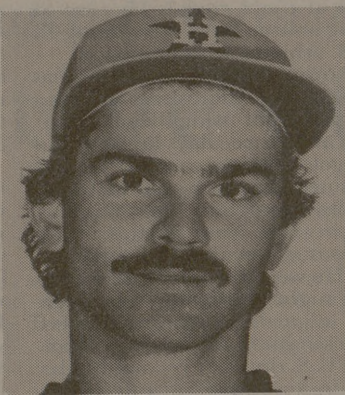
**United Press International**  
HOUSTON — Although St. Louis allowed only one earned run, Houston's offense proved too much for the world champion Cardinals who lost only their second game in 12 outings against the Astros this season.

The Cardinals' rookie pitcher Danny Cox, 1-3, had defeated the Astros in his last start using changeups to keep batters off balance.

"I felt that I pitched well tonight, although they scored on me when it counted," Cox said after the Cardinals' 3-1 loss to the Astros. "I went to my fast ball with men on base because it seemed like they were waiting for my changeup tonight."

Cox's strategy did not get off to a good start. Bill Doran opened the Astros charge in the first when he led off with a single, moved to third on Terry Puhl's bloop single, and scored when Dickie Thon grounded into a double play.

Houston made it 3-0 in the seventh with just one hit. With one out, Jerry Mumphy singled to center and John Mizerock hit a grounder that first baseman Hendrick booted for an error, moving Mumphy moving to third. Ruhle then executed a perfect squeeze bunt that delivered Mumphy.



Dickie Thon

Ruhle made his most important contribution, however, during 8 1-3 innings on the mound.

He allowed just three hits to up his season mark to 8-3 and notch his second win in five days. Once George Hendrick hit his 15th homer of the year and

Dane Iorg singled with one out in the ninth, Bill Dawley relieved and earned his 14th save.

Houston manager Bob Lillis was delighted with his team's performance.

"We're in the pennant race now," he said. "We have an entire month to go. We have to get hot and we have to beat L.A. and

Atlanta when we play them." Lillis indicated he will be looking to Ruhle to raise the temperature of his players.

"Ruhle did a beautiful job tonight. This is the longest he's gone this season," Lillis said. "He's had a tremendous August, and he will be a great help to us the last month."

# Cougars' secondary has coach edgy about Rice

**United Press International**  
HOUSTON — With only one defensive back that has any play... Houston Cougars... Bill Yeoman has to hope... a bit off the money in its... attack Thursday night... quarterback Philip... will be leading the attack... the inexperienced... made up of C.D. Byn... Greg Purcell, Audrey... and DeWayne... Bowden has played at a... position in a Houston... and that was only for 92... and, Calif... say I'm concerned ab... way the secondary will... Yeoman said on Tuesday... Houston and Rice play the... early Southwest Con... game at 8 p.m. in the... renewal of a relatively new... between schools separated... 5 miles... season more than any... both teams are un... Yeoman said uncer... plus the factor of being... first game for both teams... this game hard to figure... you can do all the mouth... you want," he said, "but at... time of year you have to do... talking on the field."... man spent the 1982 sea... pleased with veteran, ex... cornerbacks and saf...

program. They have a lot better attitude. The senior leadership is as good as on any team I've had," he said.

He pointed to captains Eugene Lockhart, a linebacker; fullback Dwayne Love and offensive tackle Duane Losack — and defensive tackle DeWayne Calloway as the ones who are personally taking charge of the team.

He said the hard work put in by this Cougars team reminded

him of that during the 1976 pre-season, a year Houston was 10-2 and won the Cotton Bowl.

"Going 5-5-1 has an exhilarating effect sometimes. I remember two days after the 2-8 season Wilson Whitley and the other captains came to me and said, 'All right, what do we have to do.'"

"That sure made the players a lot more receptive to coaching," he said.

...this young group is a lot... and a lot more into the

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