

TANK McNAMARA®

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Astros' sweep of Cubs on road first since 1973

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Tim Tolman hit half of his four career home runs in Chicago's Wrigley Field, including a three-run shot on Wednesday that lifted the Houston Astros to an 11-6 victory over the Chicago Cubs.

Tolman's pinch-hit homer, off Cubs reliever Ron Meridith, capped a five-run Houston sixth and gave the Astros an 8-6 lead.

"He threw a fastball," Tolman said. "It got in on me a little bit, but I was fortunate to hit it into the net. I didn't get all of it by any means."

Jerry Humphrey, who came off the bench to double in the first two runs in the sixth, stayed in the game and hit a three-run homer in the seventh to complete the scoring.

"I just sat and watched in the first half of the game," said Humphrey, who had his best RBI performance of the season. "This is by far my best game this year and it would be my best week."

Thanks to the eight RBIs from the bench, the Astros swept the Cubs at Wrigley Field for the first time since 1973. It was Houston's seventh win in eight games.

The Astros pounded 13 hits off six Chicago pitchers, while the Cubs nailed three Houston hurlers for 13 hits.

"In this series, we couldn't get them out," Cubs Manager Jim Frey said. "They've got those switch hitters and a lot of speed. We hit the ball pretty good. We fought back and took leads, but we couldn't hold them."



Other Wednesday scores: (Home team in capitals)

AMERICAN LEAGUE

- Cleveland 5, TORONTO 4
- BALTIMORE 6, Oakland 1
- NEW YORK 4, Seattle 3
- KANSAS CITY 6, Chicago 5 (10)
- Milwaukee 11, MINNESOTA 10

NATIONAL LEAGUE

- SAN FRANCISCO 4, Philadelphia 3
- PITTSBURGH 2, Atlanta 0
- ST. LOUIS 4, Cincinnati 3
- New York 8, SAN DIEGO 3
- Montreal at LOS ANGELES (n)

Chicago reliever Johnny Abrego walked Glenn Davis and Phil Garner to open the sixth and Humphrey doubled to pull Houston within 6-5. Ron Meridith (2-2) replaced Abrego

and walked Doran before Tolman hit his first homer of the season to give Houston an 8-6 lead.

An inning later, Garner and Mark Bailey singled off reliever George Frazier and Humphrey hit his sixth homer of the year.

The Cubs' Ryne Sandberg, who has 13 hits in his last 25 at-bats, drove in four runs with a two-run homer, a single and a grounder.

Houston's Mike Scott (15-7) gave up six runs in five innings. Julio Salano and Jeff Calhoun went the rest of the way for the Astros.

Chicago starter Ray Fontenot was rocked for two runs in the first. Houston's Bill Doran walked on four pitches to open the game and Kevin Bass doubled over the head of Cubs' centerfielder Bob Dernier to score Doran. Bass scored, when Jose Cruz doubled.

The Cubs got a run back in the first when Dernier doubled, advanced on Gary Matthews' single and scored when Sandberg bounced into a fielder's choice. Chicago tied it in the third when Dernier doubled and Sandberg singled.

Garner homered on Fontenot's first pitch of the fourth inning for a 3-2 Astros lead.

The Cubs scored twice in the fourth. Leon Durham singled and went to third on Shawon Dunston's double. Pinch hitter Billy Hatcher beat out an infield hit to score Durham and Dunston scored on a wild pitch by Scott.

Dernier walked and Sandberg hit his 22nd homer in the fifth.

Rose's slump may delay record hit

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Pete Rose is going through a mild batting slump that may delay his date with destiny and the all-time hits record of Ty Cobb.

Going into Wednesday night's game against the St. Louis Cardinals, the Cincinnati player-manager was six hits away from Cobb's mark of 4,191.

While he is averaging .899 hits in each game he has played this season, that mark has dipped to .727 hits a game over the last 11 games, during which he has batted only .211. Since

Aug. 18, when he went 2-for-4 at Houston, his overall average has slipped from .273 to .266.

"I haven't been hitting the ball hard in games," Rose said. "Even when I go 'oh-for-something,' I usually hit the ball hard two times out of three or three times out of four."

Rose benched himself for Tuesday night's game, snapping a string of six straight starts, his longest since mid-May. In those six games, he had

five hits in 22 at-bats for a .227 average.

At that pace, he would need 26 or 27 at-bats to get six more hits, and, since he has averaged about 3.666 at-bats per game over that stretch, he would need at least seven games to break the record.

If he continues to hit the way he has for the past week — and assuming he plays each game in Cincinnati this weekend — Rose would break the record next Thursday, Sept. 12 against San Diego or Friday, Sept. 13 against Los Angeles.

Davis

(continued from page 8)

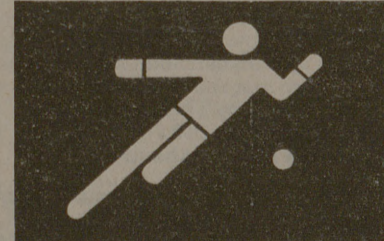
7.6 yards each time he carried the ball. He is a power runner blessed with 4.47 speed in the 40-yard dash.

But Davis' favorite college moment isn't a touchdown run. It's the

final gun at TCU's amazing 32-31 come-from-behind victory over Arkansas last year. The victory ended a

streak of two decades of losses to the Razorbacks.

"It was a fantastic moment for the school," Davis said. "I looked at Coach Wacker and he was as red as an apple. He was just so happy. So was I."



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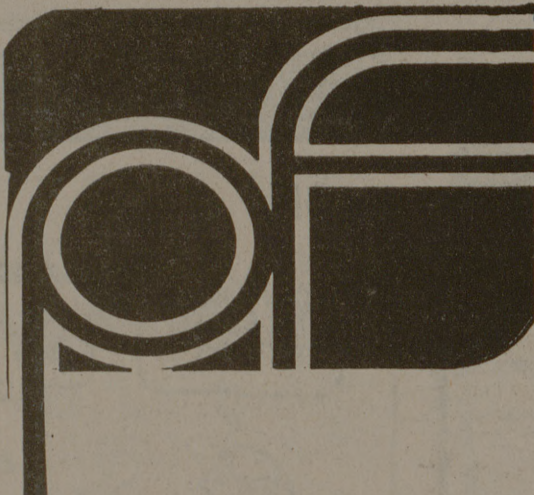
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