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Astro's Kerfeld says Card hurler deserves '86 NL Rookie honors

(AP) — Houston Astros pitcher Charlie Kerfeld has recorded some outstanding stats for a first-year pitcher and is openly proud of them, yet he still gives his unqualified support to St. Louis reliever Todd Wor-rell for Rookie of the Year.

I have had a great year, not just a good year, a great year," Kerfeld said Tuesday. "But Todd has had such an outstanding year, he should walk away with it.

In Kerfeld's view, "Robby Thompson, Kevin Mitchell . . . any "Robby of those guys," are not in the same class as Worrell.

Despite an 8-10 record with 68-69 club, Worrell leads the National League in saves with 31, is second in appearances with 66 behind Craig Lefferts of San Diego with 73, and has a 2.19 earned run average

While Oakland A's outfielder Jose Canseco and California Angels first baseman Wally Joyner have been battling for the AL award, Worrell, Kerfeld, the Mets' Mitchell and Thompson of the San Francisco Giants have been competing in the NL. Thompson is hitting .269 with six homers and 40 RBI. Mitchell is hit-

.290 with 11 home runs and 38 RBI, but played only part time earlier in the year. Neither is among the leaders in any of the major hitting categories.

Kerfeld, likewise, has gone 9-2 with seven saves and a 2.79 ERA in 57 games for the West Division-leading Astros. But he still feels he doesn't come close to the Cardinals' young stopper.

"He's Whitey's (Herzog, St. Louis manager) No. 1 man out of the bull-pen, I'm Hal's (Lanier, Houston manager) second," Kerfeld said. "He's going to get all the publicity, but I think Todd has just had the best year of all of us.

This season might be considered a reprieve by some for Worrell. The 26-year-old right-hander was called up late last season and recorded five saves with a 2.91 ERA in 17 appearances.

But in the World Series, he was the loser in the pivotal Game 6 against the Kansas City Royals - the game in which television replays showed umpire Don Denkinger incorrectly calling Jorge Orta safe in the ninth inning and enabling the Royals to rally for two runs to win

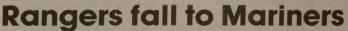
the game. "I don't want to orient myself to-ward awards," Worrell said. "That's not real good because you put extra pressure on yourself and you don't play as relaxed. But you do think of the awards."

Astros overpower Reds, 9-2

HOUSTON (AP) — Mike Scott of their two-game series and the teams meet for the final time this pitched a five-hitter over eight in-nings and Glenn Davis' double keyed a four-run sixth inning as Houston beat Cincinnati 9-2 Tues-day to extend the Astros' division lead over the second-place Reds to 10 games.

ing next Tuesday in Cincinnati. Scott, 16-9, who leads the major league in strikeouts, fanned seven to increase his total to 260, the third-

games. highest mark in Astros' history. J.R. Richard struck out 313 and 303 in 1979 and 1978, respectively.



ARLINGTON (AP) —Right-hander Edwin Nunez, making his first start since 1983, allowed three hits in five scoreless innings, and Jim Presley hit a two-run homer as the

relief, and had pitched a total of only seven innings.

The loser was Jose Guzman, 9-13, who left in the eighth inning when Seattle scored its third run on an



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