

# Wilson A 'Take Charge' Guy In Tigers' Drive

Talk about your athletes who produce. In the cliche, the Tigers would like to nominate Earl Wilson for a spot somewhere high on the list.

Wilson doesn't want one might say is a great record this year. He's 9-8 with an earned-run average of 2.90.

There's little chance he can reach his mark of a year ago when he was the Tigers' big pitcher with 22 victories against 11 losses.

Some of Wilson's difficulties are understandable. He missed almost three weeks with a heel injury.

Then he hurt his wrist when he stopped a line drive.

Notwithstanding, Wilson has delivered three times in the last two weeks for the Tigers in "key" situations—each time when the Tigers seemed to be faltering and on a downward skid.

THERE WAS an afternoon in Oakland where he set down the A's to help the Tigers head for home with a victory after their worst trip of the season.

Then, in Baltimore, when the Tigers needed a tonic, there was Wilson again with six strong innings before Daryl Patterson came aboard with a spectacular job of relief work.

Wilson's premier job came last Tuesday in blanking the New York Yankees, 5-0, to give the Tigers an even split in the two-game series.

The Tigers hadn't looked well the night before in being blasted by the Yanks. What's more, Wilson found himself matched up with Mel Stottlemyre, the New York ace.

WILSON TOOK charge on the mound and with the bat. He held the Yanks to three hits and fanned five before giving way to Patterson in the ninth.

It was Wilson who started the Tigers off in the scoring column with a homer to the wrong field—right. Dick McAuliffe followed with another homer. Al Kaline doubled in two runs and Dick Tracewski knocked in the other.

McAuliffe is another who qualifies as "a clutch" performer.

He was the big Tiger with

## Olympics Move Nearer To Flag

The Detroit Olympics lacrosse team, moving nearer to the Eastern Division championship in the National League, whipped Victoria, 12-8, at Olympia for its fifth straight victory.

Ross Jones, playing his last game for Detroit under junior rules, scored three goals and two assists. The Olympics host Toronto at Olympia Tuesday night.

the bat Wednesday night when Denny McLain picked up his 21st victory against three hits by thrilling last-place Washington with ease, 4-0.

McAuliffe doubled in the first inning and scored Detroit's first run on Mickey Stanley's fly. In the third, McAuliffe homered—his 14th of the year. In

the fifth he singled and raced around Kaline's double.

Came the seventh and for the fourth time in the game, McAuliffe led off an inning with a hit—this time his second double. He once more scored when Kaline delivered a RBI single.

McLain scattered four hits and fanned nine to gain his second straight shutout.

FOR McLAIN the victory also surpassed his previous high of 20 triumphs in a single season. He was 20-14 in 1966.

He now has won 80 and lost 45 since entering the American League in 1963 and as a Tiger he has the unique distinction

of having beaten each team at least once in each of the past four seasons.

McLain has completed 18 of the 26 games he's started and brought his earned run average down below two in 219 innings of work.

The statisticians figure that McLain will have at least 16

more starting assignments before the season ends, thus giving him a great chance to become the first major league pitcher since 1934 to win 30 games in a season. On that occasion Dizzy Dean was 30-7 for the St. Louis Cardinals.

The last American League hurler to top 30 was Lefty Grove, who was 31-4 for the

Philadelphia A's in 1931. McLain will get his chance for No. 22 Sunday when the Tigers play at Minnesota in a game to be televised on Channel 2.

Manager Smith shuffled his pitching for Thursday's game with the Nats and used Pat Dobson in place of Mickey Lonich to no avail as Washington won, 9-3.

The Nats bombed out Dobson with a two-run homer by Epstein in the first and a grand slam

by Ron Hansen in the third.

In the fifth, Bernie Allen "homered" for the Nats on a drive which, actually was foul by several feet. But umpire Nestor Chynak saw the situation differently.

A homer by Norm Cash and three hits by Jim Northrup led the Detroit attack.

The Tigers, who play in Minnesota Sunday, returned home Tuesday for a two-night battle with Cleveland. Boston follows the Tribe into Tiger Stadium next weekend.



JOHN FETZER, president of the Detroit Tigers, is enjoying life these days as the owner of a club which appears to have a commanding lead in the American League flag race. However, he frets out each game as Observer Photographer James Hubbard discovered at a recent night contest. (Left) Gee, Things Look A Little Rough. (Center) That's Better, a Homer By Willie. (Right) Ahead And Everything Is Under Control Now.



## The Tiger Schedule

SUNDAY—At Minnesota, 2:30 p.m. (Clt. 2 and WJR).  
TUESDAY—Cleveland at Tiger Stadium, 2 games, 5:30 p.m. (WJR).  
WEDNESDAY—Cleveland at Tiger Stadium, 8 p.m. (WJR).  
THURSDAY—Cleveland at Tiger Stadium, 8 p.m. (WJR).  
FRIDAY—Boston at Tiger Stadium, 8 p.m. (WJR).

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## At these stores and garden centers

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Murray's Bargain Center 26717 Plymouth	Merchandise Mart 27600 W. Eight Mile Garden City Hardware Sports Center 29855 Ford Road	Ace Hardware 31720 Plymouth America's Hardware & Supply Co. 1245 W. Eight Mile George L'Heffler Hardware 29150 W. Five Mile Road	Livonia Hardware 33533 W. Five Mile Road Merchandise Mart 30441 Plymouth	Heides Garden Center 698 North Mill Saxtons Garden Center 587 W. Ann Arbor Trail S-W Pro Hardware 875 W. Ann Arbor

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