

# Yankee Minstrel Tresh Hums and Strums Ballads

Talented Frosh Eased Clubhouse Tension With Guitar;  
Tom May Cut Some Records of His Favorite Folk Tunes

By TIL FERDENZI

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Any World's Series is for doers, so you've got to say the classic is tailor-made for young men like Tom Tresh. The Yankee rookie is loaded with versatility. He's a switch-hitter and plays at short and in left field with the best of them.

That's the professional side of the Yankee left fielder. Then there's the musical side. That would be Tom Tresh, the strolling troubadour. It is to be doubted if there is anybody in the American League who can match Tresh when it comes time to picking out a few folk tunes on the guitar. He's as accomplished musically as he is during working hours in the pin-striped garb of the American League champions. Strumming the guitar and warbling his own accompaniment is nothing new for Tresh. He's been a musician almost as far back as he can remember.

"I started out with the ukelele, then graduated to the guitar," he said.

The blond outfielder is no mudcat musician. His repertoire of folk songs includes hundreds of numbers. The ones he gets the most requests for are those he likes best himself. They are "John Hardy," "Frogie Went A'Courtin'," "Sloop John B" and "Scotch and Soda."

Tresh is no rock 'n roll fancier. He is cut along the lines of Burl Ives, without whiskers, of course.

"I like singable tunes," he said. "There ought to be a certain melody or rhythm to a song."

At the moment, Tresh was most concerned with the World's Series. But after his professional commitments are over, there is a good chance that Tom Tresh and his guitar will be pressed into a series of records.

### Mother Encouraged Talent

"I've always wanted to make a record," he said, "and I think there's a good chance that might happen some time this winter."

Tresh's musical learnings were nurtured at an early age.

"My mother influenced me a lot," he said. "She plays the uke and the organ," the rookie said. "I've been taking lessons for a long time. She is very musically inclined."

Despite the presence of a three-piece combo, Tom and his guitar were the favorite attractions at the victory celebration by the Yank players and their wives at the Stadium Club after the flag clinching. The strolling minstrel was called on for encore after encore.

Tresh is nothing new. The baseball scene has been well flavored with part-time musicians down through the years.

Probably the best known of all was Charlie Grimm, a fellow who played the banjo the hard way—lefthanded. Waite Hoyt, Al Mamaux and Buddy Hassett rated among the best of the vocalists. In fact, Hoyt and Mamaux performed professionally for a while. That was long before Tresh was born.

Tresh did not have his guitar along with him in this World's Series. It's business before pleasure with the rookie outfielder.

"Plenty of time to play and sing when this thing's over," he had said.

### Songs Helped Morale

It may sound a bit incongruous to say so, but Tresh's guitar and his pleasing songs contributed in no small part to the intangibles behind the Yankees' twenty-seventh American League pennant.

"Down through the years, the Yankees have made morale-makers on this club," said Ralph Houk. "No team can win pennants unless it is a team in every sense of the word. The players have to get along with each other."

Winning more than they lost, the New York Yankees of 1962 stand as one of the most versatile units in their history. There have been many "morale-makers" on the team this year in addition to Tom Tresh.

Phil Linz, for instance, is the king of the twisters. The rookie infielder can twist with the best of them. The conventional twist, the waddle and

## The Music Man



Tom Tresh

the hully-gully are right up his alley.

Among the veterans, Bill Skowron rates next to Linz in doing the twist. The Moose's twist is more conventional, but no less enthusiastic.

In fact, the first baseman has said right along that a steady routine of twisting has cured his aching back. All last winter, Skowron did the twist to make more supple the tender muscles in his back.

"I've been twisting right along, too," he said. "Nothing like it to keep my back in shape."

When it comes to dancing, though, Joe Pepitone is the king of the ballroom. Brooklyn Joe knows all the steps, but he specializes in Latin numbers.

No one, but no one, can top Pepitone in the rumba, tango, mambo, cha-cha, samba, danzon, bolero and charanga. Turn Joe loose on a dance floor and you've got to sit up and take notice.

### Card Tricks by Kubek

Then there's Tony Kubek, baseball's premier card-trick personality. The Yankee shortstop's sleight of hand has entertained his mates on planes and busses from Boston to Los Angeles. As a killer of boredom, Kubek rates high on the list of Yankee "morale-makers."

When Kubek wasn't doing his card tricks, Marshall Bridges was contributing tall stories no one believed, but all enjoyed. The bull-pen artist liked hunting stories most. Most all of them featured Bridges in the role of hero, a sort of Paul Bunyan, Daniel Boone and Kit Carson all rolled up into one.

The Yankees, in truth, had one of their most interesting clubhouses this year. It was a free-and-easy season with no caste system to mar the workaday routine.

Mickey Mantle summed it up for everybody.

"We get along and that's one of the big reasons we win so often," the center fielder said. "This is a team and not a bunch of individuals."

# Houk Sizeup

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without Tresh? That has to be doubted.

"Tresh was great around short. But we missed Kubek, nevertheless. He was the best shortstop in baseball in 1961.

"Now we come to one of the major factors in the pennant race. The long layoff of Mantle, with injuries.

"Just figure this. Mantle out for weeks, Al Kaline out for weeks, Frank Lary injured and away below par, Steve Barber going at a much reduced speed, Norm Cash away off in his hitting, Steve Boros and Jake Wood slumping together to destroy the Tigers' fine infield of 1961. Yeah, just add all this up and see what you get.

"Add into it the home-run reduction on the Yankees, with Maris no longer the '61 phenom and Mantle far behind 54.

"Add Arroyo's arm trouble, which threw a great relief pitcher of 1961 into the 1962 slag pile.

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### Salute to Twins, Angels

"While all this was happening on the contender clubs of 1961, the Minnesota and Los Angeles clubs were fighting their way into contention and producing an upheaval which I believe was without precedent."

"Minnesota and the Angels deserve tremendous credit," Houk continued. "Mele, Calvin Griffith, Rigney and Fred Haney—well, they got some amazing breaks, but they sure kicked up the greatest fuss this league has seen in many years, if not in all its history since 1901.

"The Twins came up with some splendid young players, among them Rich Rollins and Bernie Allen. Sleepers. Their minor league records did not recommend them, at all.

"But they played scrappy, gorgeous baseball. But for a technicality, Rollins would have been eligible to fight Tresh for the Rookie of the Year award.

"The Angels made changes here, changes there. Pitcher Dean Chance, Pitcher Ken McBride, who hurt his arm, even Bo Belinsky, gave Rigney mound authority.

"But what he had most was fight. The word got around the league early that the top clubs of 1961 could be had. This spurred the underdogs of 1961 into the kind of action that made the most exciting race our league has had in years.

"Yes, the league leveled off, and how! For a while I thought that Cleveland, too, would get into the reputation-wrecking carnival, and the way they handled us in those four straight victories sure threw a scare into us.

"However, the four against the Indians, the five straight defeats by Baltimore—these things served to play up the class and the aggressiveness of our ball team. Knock them down, and the Yankees came back stronger than ever.

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### Radatz Blazed at Reliever

"There were times when the Red Sox, too, were formidable. This kid relief star, Radatz—well, Higgins put him in if ahead in late innings and you couldn't hit the man. Bressoud made a difference at short and Runnels came back strong.

"You look deep into this kind of race, put down the outstanding factors on paper, and you find out things about major league baseball that help you to understand how the game remains so powerful a hold on the fans. "Time and fortune refuse to pay any attention to the form chart of the previous year.

"A player spends the off season banqueting, and suffers a tremendous drop in average.

"A great outfielder hurts his knee, hurts his side, hurts all over, and the most remarkable drive and spirit in the league is on the bench and there is no true replacement.

"Your club used to get six runs for your star lefty if the other side got five, and suddenly this sort of stuff ceases.

"Baseball mysteries are enclosed in all this. I am not trying to solve them. All I know is that it was a crazy race in a daffy league, and in spite of everything, the Yankees won again.

"So, what happened to the Yankees? Little of any final difference."

## Wear Crowns as Regal Relievers



ROY FACE



DICK RADATZ

# Face, Radatz Grab Fireman's Trophies

Roy Leads N. L.'s Bull-Pen  
Dazzlers With 31 Points;  
Dick Paces A. L. With 25

By JERRY HOLTZMAN

CHICAGO, Ill.

Roy Face of the Pirates and Dick Radatz of the Red Sox won the 1962 Fireman Trophies which are presented annually by THE SPORTING NEWS to the top relief pitchers in the National and American leagues. It was the first victory for each in this competition.

Face, a veteran righthander, finished first in the N. L. derby with a total of 31 points and had a commanding edge over Jack Baldschun of the Phillies and Ron Perranoski of the Dodgers, who tied for second place, each with 23 points.

Radatz, the first rookie to win a Fireman Trophy, compiled 25 points to lead the A. L. bull-pen stars. As in the N. L., there was also a tie for second place, Gary Bell of the Indians and Hoyt Wilhelm of the Orioles finishing behind Radatz with 20 points each.

Face and Radatz thus join the previous four winners of the Fireman Trophies, which were first presented after the 1960 season. Lindy McDaniel of the Cardinals and Mike Fornieles of the Red Sox won the '60 awards. Last year's winners were Luis Arroyo of the Yankees and Stu Miller of the Giants.

### One Point for Victory

In THE SPORTING NEWS' tabulations, one point is awarded for each victory in relief and another point for each save. Saves, in almost all cases, are awarded only when a reliever faces the tying or leading run during his tenure on the mound.

Face, who had eight wins and 23 saves, finished with the third highest point total in the history of the awards. His 31 points have been exceeded only by McDaniel and Arroyo, both of whom amassed 34 points when they won their trophies.

Face, however, did set a record with his 23 saves, most ever by a reliever since THE SPORTING NEWS started its Fireman Trophies in an effort to reward the major leagues' bullpen aces, who had been regarded as baseball's forgotten men. McDaniel's 22 saves in 1960 had been the previous single-season high.

The trophy climaxes Face's outstanding bull-pen career. He has been one of the game's top relievers for six years. Roy was second to McDaniel in 1960 and last season finished third in the Fireman Derby behind Miller and Jim Brosnan of the Reds.

The Pirates' little righthander appeared in 63 games for a total of 90½ innings and posted an earned-run average of 1.88, by far the best mark for his entire O. B. career. His previous low ERA with the Pirates was 2.71 in 1959.

Radatz, although handicapped by a second-division club, won nine games in relief and saved 16 other victories for the Red Sox.

The Red Sox righthander, starring in his first year in the majors, took part in 62 games, pitched 124½ innings and compiled an earned-run average of 2.23. All three marks surpassed anything he had accomplished previously in his career.

## Rescuer Races

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

	Wins in Relief	Saves	Pts.
Face, Pittsburgh	8	23	31
Baldschun, Philadelphia	12	11	23
Perranoski, Los Angeles	6	17	23
Miller, San Francisco	5	13	18
Sherry, Los Angeles	7	9	16
Brosnan, Cincinnati	4	10	14
Roebuck, Los Angeles	10	4	14
Henry, Cincinnati	4	9	13
Larsen, San Francisco	4	8	12
McDaniel, St. Louis	2	10	12
Raymond, Milwaukee	5	7	12
McMahon, Houston	5	6	11
Elston, Chicago	4	6	10
Kemmerer, Chi. (A.L.), Hou.	7	2	9
Olivo, Pittsburgh	5	4	9
Schultz, Chicago	5	4	9

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

	Wins in Relief	Saves	Pts.
Radatz, Boston	9	16	25
Bell, Cleveland	9	11	20
Wilhelm, Baltimore	7	13	20
Bridges, New York	8	11	19
Fox, Detroit	3	14	17
Wyatt, Kansas City	7	9	16
Moore, Minnesota	8	6	14
Morgan, Los Angeles	5	8	13
Chance, Los Angeles	5	7	12
Coates, New York	7	4	11
Duren, Los Angeles	2	9	11
Zanni, Chicago	7	4	11
Fowler, Los Angeles	4	5	9
Low, Chicago	4	5	9
Ginski, Los Angeles	6	3	9
Sullivan, Minnesota	4	5	9

# Planned Latin Trip Canceled by State Dept.

By DAN DANIEL  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

The State Department has canceled the projected tour of major league players and umpires in Central and South America, it has been announced by the office of Commissioner Ford Frick.



Ford Frick

The trip was set up by President Kennedy himself, after luncheon conferences with club owners and the commissioner.

Frick placed the arrangement in the hands of Frank Slocum of his office, and Slocum enlisted the recruiting aid of Frank Scott, player agent. Scott got the signatures of 45 players and Slocum was sorting them out under the rigid rules of eligibility set up by the State Department.

Then came the word that the State Department lacked the funds to send the players down there.

The major reason possibly traced to harsh criticism from the press and members of the Congress concerning the \$1,339,570 spent by the Helen Hayes-June Havoc dramatic troupe on a tour of Latin America, Europe and the Near East, and the amount spent by the Joey Adams troupe in a 122-day tour of Southeast Asia.

Apparently cancellation of the baseball trip had no political involvements or implications.

Although the State Department's tour is off, the Tigers will leave on schedule for their visit to Japan, which is sponsored by the two top newspapers of Tokyo.

Here in the United States, the old institution of barnstorming appears to have died out. No junkets of this type have been arranged as aftermaths of the season.