It's funny, the way things happen in March. In a game that featured Nick Swisher, Michael Bourn, and Buster Posey, it was Roberto Perez, of Akron Aeros fame, that played the role of the hero in the Indians 4-3 victory over the Giants in Scottsdale on Tuesday.

With the game knotted at 3, we were dangerously close to "kissing your sister" territory, which would have been the defending champs 4th stalemate in 12 games, but Perez put an end to that nonsense on a 2-2 pitch from Dan Otero with one out in a 3-3 game.

Early on, it didn't seem as if the ball was going to fly out of the ballpark often, but the Indians and Giants certainly picked their spots. You wouldn't call it "small ball", but Ezekiel Carrera took it upon himself to set the table properly in the second, even though he didn't do anything to help his batting average (.111) on Tuesday.

"His speed impacts the game," Terry Francona said, when asked what he thought of Carrera, "He could be an interesting part of the bench; he can change the game with his speed. He's a good little player.

I think he's done a really good job of hitting the cut-off man, coming to get the ball; eliminating runs that way."

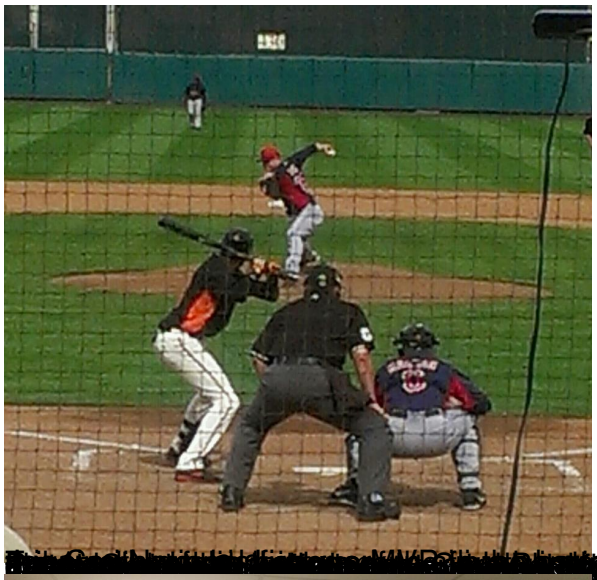
Cord Phelps led the inning off with a single to right center field that landed just feet in front of Gregor Blanco and Hunter Pence, the ball was booted a bit by Pence, but Phelps held at first on the play. Carrera hit a ground ball to Madison Bumgarner, the Giants starting pitcher, which erased Phelps at second base. That's when Carrera decided to get the inning started. With Juan Diaz at the plate, he stole 2nd base, then took 3rd on the strike 3 pitch to Diaz. Luis Hernandez brought the Indians speed demon home on a base hit to left field, to give the visiting Tribe a 1-0 advantage.

Hernandez's RBI single would be the only run scored on a ball that stayed in the park. The Indians threatened again on a blast, or at least a pretty good shot, from the past, a double by Ben Francisco off Brett Bochy, son of the Giants manager.

He'd move to third on what was ruled a wild pitch, but Buster Posey certainly got the benefit of the doubt with the pitch going 5-hole to the screen.

A Nick Swisher walk set things up for the sizzling hot Ryan Raburn, with runners on the corners, but a hard hit ball to third resulted in a play at the plate that lacked drama, as Francisco basically walked into the tag of Posey at home for the second out of the inning. Cord Phelps lined out, and the Tribe was done in 3rd inning.

The recurring theme of the day was scoring quickly, by way of the long ball. Juan Diaz was the first to oblige, hitting from the left side of the plate; he was locked in on Ramon Ramirez's 3-2 changeup and put it on the berm in right-center field.

That put them up 2-0, and it didn't look like the Indians were done in the fourth.

Luis Hernandez took a free pass. Then, with the hit and run on, Bourn singled; Hernandez went 1st to 3rd on the play and the Tribe was in business again with one outs. It was all for not though; Marson went down looking at strike 3 and Francisco flied out to the warning track in left center. Bourn stole second on the strikeout pitch to Marson, his first swiped bag of the spring.