

Indians sign free agents Raburn, Francisco

Written by Staff Reports

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CLEVELAND (AP) — The Indians have signed utilityman Ryan Raburn and outfielder Ben Francisco to minor league contracts with invitations to spring training.

Raburn has spent his entire career with the Detroit Tigers. The 31-year-old is a .256 hitter with 54 homers and 216 RBIs in 566 games. He spent most of 2012 with the Tigers and also appeared in 15 games for Triple-A Toledo. Raburn, who has played 396 career games in the outfield and 143 at second base, made two trips to the disabled list last year.

Francisco played in 235 games for Cleveland from 2007-09 before he was traded to Philadelphia. The 31-year-old has also played for Toronto, Houston and Tampa Bay. While with the Indians, Francisco batted .261 with 28 homers and 99 RBIs. He had a .281 average in 106 games at Progressive Field.