Homemade Sloppy Joes



1½ pounds ground beef

½ onion, diced

2 cloves garlic, minced

½ green pepper, diced fine

2 c water, divided

3/4 c ketchup

1 dash Worcestershire sauce

2 T brown sugar

1 t mustard

 $1\frac{1}{2}$ t salt

½ t ground black pepper

8 buns

Brown beef in skillet over medium/low heat, stirring occasionally. Add onion, garlic, and green pepper and cook, stirring occasionally, 2-3 minutes. Add 1 cup water and stir, scraping bottom of pan to loosen any browned bits. Add ketchup, Worcestershire sauce, brown sugar, mustard, salt, pepper, and remaining cup of water. Bring mixture to boil and reduce heat to low. Simmer, stirring occasionally, until mixture thickens, approximately 40 minutes. Serve on buns. Refrigerate leftovers.