

sports

Rockets fall hard to Celts

United Press International
HOUSTON — Veteran Nate Archibald scored 20 points and rookie Larry Bird gave the misfiring Boston Celtics a needed lift in the third quarter to direct them past the Houston Rockets, 100-81, and into a commanding lead in their playoff series.

Boston extended its Eastern Conference semi-final lead to 30 without strongman center Dave Cowens over the final 13 minutes. Cowens went to the locker room for treatment of an aching back.

The fourth game in the best of

seven series is in Houston Monday night. Games five and six, if necessary, will be played in Boston.

Rudy Tomjanovich's two quick baskets and four quick points by Moses Malone, the Rocket's leading scorer with 28 points, closed Boston's lead to 55-53 midway through the third quarter. When Cowens drew his fourth foul and was replaced, the Houston home crowd came alive for the first time.

But in the final five minutes of the determining third quarter, Bird grabbed the game from the Rockets by scoring six points, making a critic-

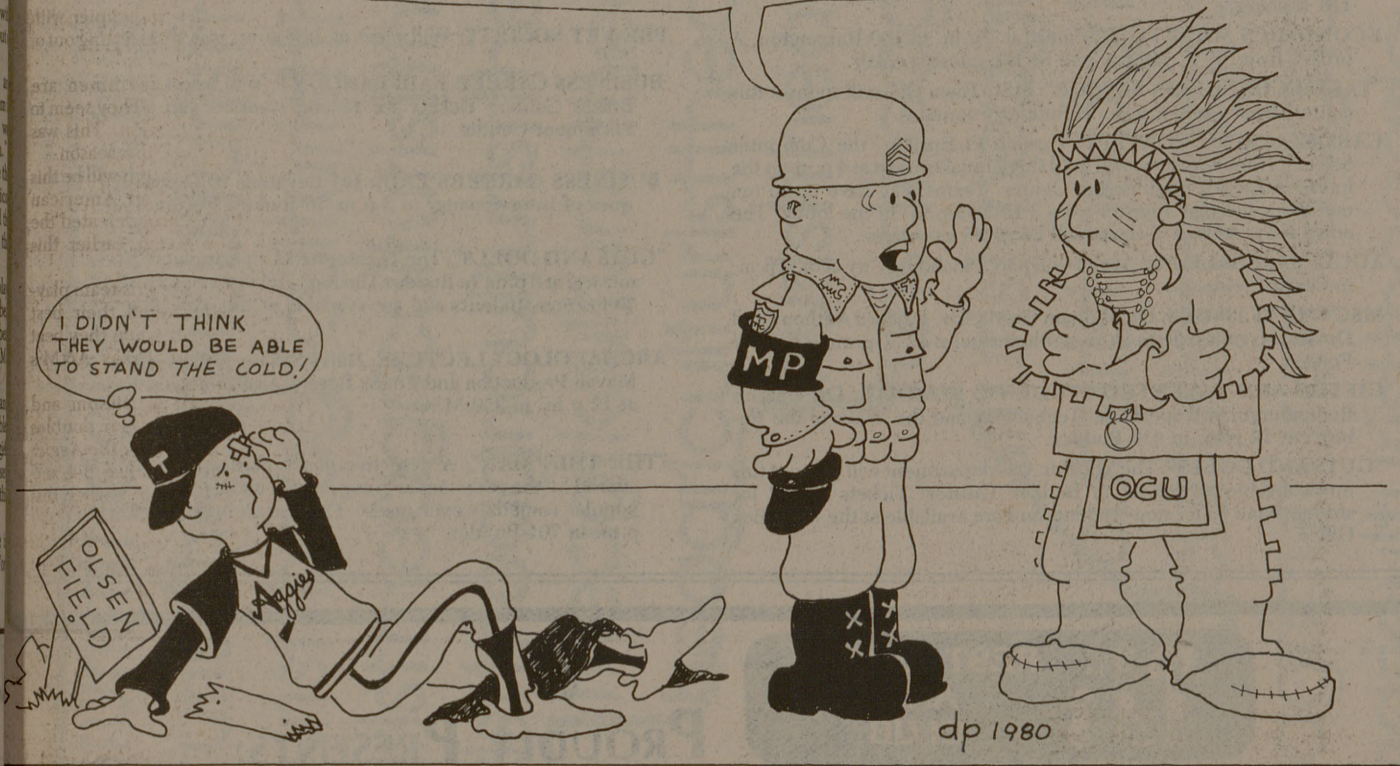
al steal and assisting three other baskets.

Houston, which is 0-9 against Boston this season, scored only four points during that Boston blitz, and fell behind 71-57 to open the fourth quarter. The Rockets never pulled closer than 10 points.

In the absence of Cowens, Cedric Maxwell scored 19 points and Cowens' backup, Rick Robey, added 14. Bird finished the game with 18 points.

Houston forward Robert Reid kept the Rockets close in the first half with 17 of his 23 points.

YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT, CHIEF ... 'TIL WE CLEAN UP THE DEBRIS FROM THE HURRICANE!



Hurricanes blow Ags away

By MIKE BURRICHTER
Sports Editor

Local tornado and thunderstorm warnings that plagued weekend activities seemed minuscule compared to the Hurricane that swept through Olsen Field this weekend.

The University of Miami-Fla., came into town ranked No. 1 in the nation, and with their two-game sweep over the Ags, 8-1 and 4-1, would remain in that position. The third game was cancelled.

The young Aggies, ranked ninth nationally, gave the Hurricane all they could handle with gutsy performances from two freshmen pitchers.

Rick Luecken started the Friday night game for the Ags and engaged in a real pitchers' duel with Miami pitcher Neal Heaton through the first seven innings.

Luecken had limited the Hurricanes to two runs on five hits after seven innings when Aggie coach Tom Chandler pulled him because he felt Luecken had thrown too many pitches.

Sophomore Bobby Taylor took the mound for the Ags in the eighth and was greeted by a Hurricane hitting pitcher.

Matt Tyner hit a home run with Matt Minium, who had singled, on the board to give the Hurricane a 4-1

lead. After two more singles, Chandler yanked Taylor and put freshman Jack Miska in. Miska walked the first batter he faced and then Mike Ferguson smacked a grand slam home run to make the final score lopsided.

In the first inning, the Hurricane took the lead when Luecken walked two batters and gave up a single to Tyner. Paul Hundhammer tripled and scored on a single by Minium to give Miami a 2-0 lead after three innings.

The Ags finally got on the board in the fourth when Doug Teague reached first on an error, and scored on successive two-out singles by Simon Glenn and Twig Little. Miami shortstop Ross Jones may have prevented the Ags from tying the score when he dove to his left to pick off a low line drive off the bat of Joe Paul Bramhall, making the defensive play of the series.

Luecken absorbed the loss, his second of the year against seven victories. Heaton increased his record to 12-2.

David Flores handcuffed the Hurricanes for eight innings Saturday night, and went into the seventh with a 1-0 lead.

But Frank Castro walked to start the seventh and Mike Pagliaruno singled him to second. Jones then moved the runners up one base with

a sacrifice bunt and Paul Dejesus knocked in two runs with a single up the middle. Hundhammer singled to score another run and Chandler replaced Flores with Charles Guinn. Guinn gave up another run-scoring single before striking out the last batter to end the inning.

The Ags lashed out ten hits against two Hurricane pitchers, starter Bob Bastian and Jeff Morrison, but great defensive plays prevented the Ags from scoring more runs. Altogether, the Aggies left twelve runners stranded.

Mike Hurdle struck out but reached first on a passed ball to start off the fourth inning. One out later, Bramhall singled, sending Hurdle to third. Woodruff was hit by a pitch to load the bases, and Morrison re-

placed him. He was greeted by a Simon Glenn single, which scored Hurdle. Morrison got out of the jam by making Little hit into a force play at home and Bobby Beach's fly ball ended the inning.

Flores dropped to 2-1, while Morrison increased his season record to 5-2.

The Aggies, now 27-7, travel to Austin Friday for a showdown with conference leader Texas, which swept Houston this weekend to up its conference record to 15-3. The second-place Ags are 13-4 in conference play. Tonight the Ags will open a four-game series with Oklahoma City at Olsen Field. The teams will play two double-headers, tonight and Tuesday night. Games start at 5:30.

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Dickey first again as 5 Ags place in track

Curtis Dickey and Randy Hall brought in two first places, and the 400-meter relay team finished second, to give the Aggies an impressive showing in the weekend's Bruce Jenner Classic track meet.

Six Aggies traveled to San Jose, Calif., for the meet, and five brought home places.

Hall tied with two others in the pole vault with Billy Olson of Abilene Christian and Felix Bohni of San Jose State. All three cleared 18 feet, 1/2 inch, but Hall and Olson tied for first on the basis of fewer misses.

Dickey, the Aggies' sprint ace, kept his undefeated record intact as he blazed by Houston McTear to win the 100-meter dash in 10.21. McTear was a distant second at 10.39.

The Aggies' 400-meter relay team placed second to Southern California's. The Aggies' 39.52 clocking was well behind USC's 39.20.

Aggie shot putter Tim Scott also attended the meet.

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