

Sports

Astros coming home, embarrass Phillie

United Press International PHILADELPHIA — Jose Cruz, Houston's unheralded power source, singled home Terry Puhl with the tiebreaking run in the top of a four-run 10th inning Wednesday night, enabling the Astros to even their National League playoff series

against Philadelphia at one game apiece with a 7-4 victory over the Phillies.

The best-of-five series switches Friday afternoon to Houston, where all remaining games will be played. Philadelphia won four of the six games between the teams during the regular season in the Astrodome. Larry Christenson will pitch for the Phils against knuckleballer Joe Niekro.

A playoff-record crowd of 65,476 watched Cruz drive in the go-ahead run in the eighth inning to give Houston a 3-2 lead and then bounce a single through the right side of the infield to deliver Puhl in the 10th for a 4-3 lead.

Puhl led off the 10th with his third hit of the game, a sharp single to right, and was sacrificed to second by Enos Cabell. Joe Morgan was intentionally walked and Cruz, a 33-year-old native of Arroyo, Puerto Rico, delivered Puhl. Morgan took third on the throw to the plate and Cruz went to second when right fielder Bake McBride's throw eluded catcher Bob Boone.

After Rafael Landestoy ran for Morgan, Cesar Cedeno produced an insurance run by hitting a fielder's choice grounder to Larry Bowa, who failed in an attempt to get Landestoy at the plate. Kevin Saucier then replaced Reed and allowed a two-run triple to Dave Bergman.

The Philadelphia fans, knowing only too well that the Phillies have never won a postseason series and must now win 2-of-3 in Houston, began leaving by the thousands. One of them, however, did take time to throw what appeared to be a golf ball toward the center of the mound.

Frank LaCorte, the fourth Houston pitcher, worked out of a one-out, bases-loaded jam in the bottom of the ninth but was taken out with none out in the 10th after the first two runners reached base.

The Phils tied the score 3-3 in the eighth with Garry Maddox, quietly making his case after a long dispute with Manager Dallas Green, singling in the tying run. Greg Luzinski led off with a single and pinch-runner Lonnie Smith moved to second on

Manny Trillo's second sacrifice of the game.

Maddox then lined a single to center to score Smith and took second on the throw to the plate. After Bowa received an intentional walk, the runners were stranded when Bob Boone struck out and pinch-hitter Del Unser flied out to left.

Houston snapped a 2-2 tie in the top of the eighth, giving reliever Tug McGraw his first rough outing since the beginning of September. Morgan, revitalized by an injection into his aching left knee, lined a double to right-center and Cruz delivered him with a single.

After its first seven batters went out in order, Houston reached starter Dick Ruthven for a 1-0 lead in the third. Reynolds walked on four pitches and moved to second on pitcher Nolan Ryan's sacrifice. Puhl then drove the first pitch into left field for a single to score Reynolds.

Luzinski, the hero of the first game, helped Philadelphia take a 2-1 lead in the fourth. Schmidt led off with a double off the right-field wall

and scored when Luzinski's sacrifice bunt, accidentally pitched into the first base area, allowed the first-base runner to advance to second. The slugging slugger, who has now hit safely in 13 playoff games in which he has scored on a 3-2 sacrifice and scored on a single.

With two out in the eighth, Ruthven made the mistake of allowing the opposing pitcher to score on a 3-2 sacrifice. Ryan walked on a 3-2 sacrifice and scored on Puhl's double to tie the game.

Houston showed off its bullpen in the seventh, sending reliever Tug McGraw to the mound. Boone, attempting to push his bunt past second for a single, Greg Luzinski, intentionally walked to load the bases and Bake McBride. Dave Smith placed Sambito and Schmidt to end the threat.

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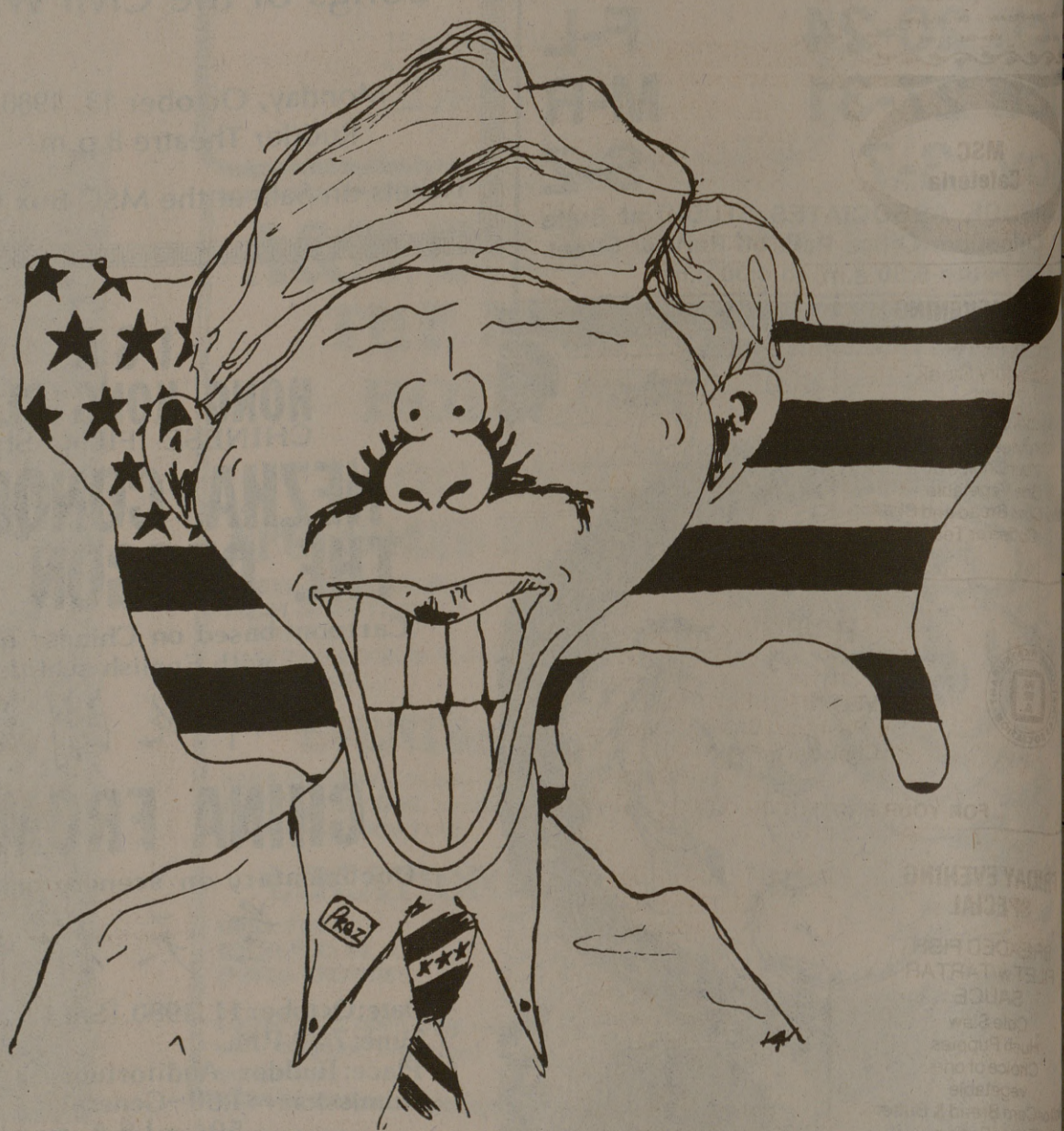
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Soccer team wins
By RICHARD OLIVER Sports Editor
The Texas A&M men's soccer team took its much-heralded defense to Huntsville Wednesday to take on Sam Houston State.
The defense did its job, and the Aggies drove home to College Station a 2-0 winner. The victory raised Texas A&M's season record to 5-2-1.
It was the second time the Aggies have played SHSU this year. The first meeting was the first game of the season, and Sam Houston won that one, 2-1.
Ag Head Coach Telmo Franco noted the Aggie defense held the Bearkats to only six shots on the goal, while the Aggies themselves took 18.
"We're not in bad shape really," said Franco. "We have a shot at at least second place by the way the team is improving. They are improving very much. We lost our first one because we weren't ready as a team now, and that takes."
"We were very anxious to avenge."
And sweet revenge it was. Six minutes into the game, team captain Paul Winston shot what Franco called a "beautiful shot." He was assisted by Marin. Approximately 10 minutes into the second half, Zimmerman passed to Madalengoita who took touch of the ball and scored the side of the goal.
The Aggies have lost to Texas A&M in the last year, and have tied TCU.
Saturday Texas A&M will travel to Arkansas to take on the Razorbacks at 2 p.m. On Sunday, the team will swing back across to Oral Roberts University for a 4 p.m. contest.

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