

# Astros beat Cubs

United Press International  
CHICAGO — Alan Ashby had been trying with little success to keep warm sitting on the Houston Astros' bench all game long, so when it came time for him to pinch hit he did all he could to prevent his teeth from chattering.

Ashby was called upon with Houston trailing the Chicago Cubs 3-2 Tuesday afternoon at windswept Wrigley Field. The temperature was 43 degrees, the wind was out of the northwest at 23 mph and the game was on the line.

Ashby shook off a case of near frostbite to deliver a two-out, two-run double that lifted Houston to a 4-3 triumph over the last-place Cubs, who lost for the 17th time in 20 games.

"It was cold. My teeth were chattering. I had frozen hands," said Ashby, whose double came off Chicago reliever Lee Smith,

0-2. "But as I ran around first base, it felt good."

Ashby's double scored Jose Cruz, who had led off with his third single of the game, and pinch-runner Dickie Thon. Thon, who ran for Art Howe after Howe singled, had gotten into scoring position by stealing second.

"I'm glad I got it. We've been on a good streak lately and we've played very well on the road, something we haven't done in the past," said Ashby, whose team won for the eighth time in its last nine games.

Ashby's heroics rallied Houston and got reliever David Smith off the hook. Smith yielded a three-run double to Chicago's Scot Thompson in the seventh inning.

But Smith came on to pitch hitless baseball the rest of the way to pick up his first win in four decisions.

# Major League Baseball

American League					National League				
East					East				
Cleveland	10	5	.667	—	St. Louis	13	4	.765	—
Milwaukee	13	8	.619	—	Montreal	15	6	.714	—
New York	14	9	.609	—	Philadelphia	16	7	.696	—
Baltimore	11	9	.550	1½	Pittsburgh	8	8	.500	4½
Detroit	10	13	.435	4	New York	6	13	.316	8
Boston	8	13	.381	5	Chicago	3	17	.150	11½
Toronto	8	14	.364	5½					
West					West				
Oakland	21	5	.808	—	Los Angeles	16	8	.667	—
Chicago	12	9	.571	6½	Cincinnati	11	10	.524	3½
Texas	12	9	.571	6½	Atlanta	12	12	.500	4
California	12	14	.462	9	Houston	11	13	.458	5
Minnesota	9	14	.391	10½	San Francisco	11	15	.423	6
Kansas City	6	12	.333	11	San Diego	8	17	.320	8½
Seattle	6	18	.250	14					
Tuesday's Results					Wednesday's Games				
Texas 6, Chicago 1					Houston 4, Chicago 3				
Cleveland at Toronto ppd. rain					Montreal 4, San Diego 3				
Baltimore 3, Minnesota 2					Philadelphia 5, Los Angeles 7				
Boston 8, Kansas City 7					St. Louis 4, Atlanta 1				
Kansas City 2, Boston 1					San Francisco 9, New York 7				
California 6, New York 2					Pittsburgh at Cincinnati ppd. rain				
Oakland 6, Detroit 2									
Milwaukee 4, Seattle 1									

# Rangers take Sox

United Press International  
ARLINGTON — Andy Darwin's two greatest assets may be his slider and his confidence.

Darwin stymied the Chicago White Sox through five innings Tuesday night and then frustrated them by pitching out of jams in the sixth, seventh and eighth innings before giving way to Steve Comer in the ninth.

Darwin's pitching and Leon Roberts' three-run homer powered Texas to a 6-1 victory.

Darwin gave up nine hits in 8 1-3 innings, but countered with nine strikeouts and no walks. It was his second consecutive strong performance, following last week's one-hitter against Boston.

"Actually I felt sharper tonight than I did against Boston," Darwin said. "I was moving the ball

well and throwing the slider well. "I was getting strikes with the slider and that made it easier," he said. "When you are a starting pitcher you've got to have the confidence to throw it when you're behind. I can tell in the first inning if I've got a good slider and tonight it was good."

Darwin was the Rangers' late-inning reliever last season as manager he said he wanted the young righthander in the starting rotation.

Bump Wills started the sixth inning with a single, followed by Mickey Rivers' ground out. Action on orders from manager Tom LaRussa, Baumgarten pitched around Al Oliver, walking him. Roberts then homered over left field wall.

# Celtics take first game, 98-95 behind late rally

United Press International  
BOSTON — Calvin Murphy, the elder statesman of the Houston Rockets, said "it's a good question" why his team lost the opening game of the NBA championship series Tuesday night to the Boston Celtics.

For an explanation of the Rockets' 98-95 defeat, the veteran guard said, "Like in a fight, if you don't knock (the opponent) out, he thinks he can come back. We are not excited about staying close with the Celtics, either you win or lose."

Coming back was what Boston did after trailing throughout most of the game. The Celtics didn't take the lead for good until Larry Bird popped in a jumper with 4:30 left in the fourth quarter for a 92-91 lead.

"We controlled the tempo of the game. If you can hold a good running team below 100 points, you did well defensively. If you take away the offensive rebounds we could have held them in the 80s," said the 5-9 Murphy, who tossed in 16 points.

Center Moses Malone, got 15 rebounds to show for his league-leading specialty, but was shackled offensively and ended up with

just 13 points. "They had five guys going to the boards and Bird (21 rebounds and 18 points) did a good job," said Malone who was so frustrated he nearly came to blows with Boston reserve center Rick Robey when both went for a rebound late in the third quarter.

"Had we reduced their offensive rebounding game by five rebounds, we would have won the game," said Houston Coach Del Harris who was unhappy that his team allowed Boston a 54-42 rebounding edge, including 25 under Houston's basket.

Forward Billy Paultz said it was "very depressing" watching Bird getting all those rebounds. "He made the ball bounce to him. We'll have to make the ball bounce to us more. Taking care of the ball is very, very important to us," said Paultz.

"We are still very confident if we can play our brand of basketball we can win. There are just a few basic things we'll have to do better," said Paultz.

And Harris knew what the most basic two are. The Houston coach said, "When we knew we were going to play Boston, I told (the players) to print this indelibly in

their brains 'b-l-o-c-k-i-n-g-o-u-t.' Another thing is we have to get back on defense. We have to control the transition game and stop (Boston guard Nate) Archibald from running. Still true Thursday."

## Lacrosse team awards

The Texas A&M lacrosse team, having recently finished its season, announced its captains and awards for the 1981 team.

Elected captains for the team were Matt Matthews, Guy Grosgebauer and Ken Foults.

Carl Hayes was voted best attackman for the team. Grosgebauer best midfielder and Most Valuable Player, and Brett Evans best defensive man.

In addition, Matthews was awarded the C.F. Hall Sportsmanship award for the year.

The lacrosse team would like to thank "Doc" Hall for his time and great contributions he has given the team this year.



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