

Sports

Major League Baseball

American League					National League				
East					East				
Milwaukee	31	22	.585	—	Montreal	30	23	.566	—
Detroit	29	23	.558	½	St. Louis	29	23	.558	½
Boston	29	23	.558	½	Philadelphia	25	27	.481	4½
Baltimore	28	23	.549	2	New York	24	28	.462	5½
Cleveland	26	26	.500	4½	Chicago	23	28	.451	6
New York	25	26	.490	5	Pittsburgh	21	33	.389	9½
Toronto	21	27	.438	7½					
West					West				
Kansas City	29	23	.558	—	Houston	33	20	.623	—
Oakland	27	22	.551	½	Cincinnati	31	21	.596	1½
Texas	24	26	.480	4	San Francisco	29	23	.558	3½
Minnesota	24	29	.453	5½	Los Angeles	27	26	.509	6
Seattle	23	29	.442	6	Atlanta	25	27	.481	7½
Chicago	23	30	.434	6½	San Diego	18	36	.333	15½
California	20	30	.400	8					

Sunday's Results		Monday's Games		Sunday's Results		Monday's Games	
California 9, Texas 2	Baltimore 5, New York 2	Boston 6, Cleveland 2	Chicago 13, Minnesota 12	Detroit 3, Milwaukee 2	Oakland 4, Kansas City 3	Seattle 2, Toronto 0	
	Kansas City at Cleveland		Houston 5, Los Angeles 3	St. Louis 4, Pittsburgh 0	Philadelphia 2, Chicago 1	New York 2, Montreal 0	San Francisco 4, San Diego 0

Rangers end season on bad note

United Press International
ARLINGTON — One of those little known facts in baseball is that there are only two Vermont born players currently on major league rosters. And they are both Texas Rangers: pitcher Len Whitehouse and first baseman Pat Putnam.

Whitehouse Sunday became the first Vermont-born pitcher to start a major league game since 1920. But if Sunday's performance is any indication, it may be another 60 years before a Vermont pitcher starts in a major league game.

Whitehouse, called up from Wichita at the end of August, entered the game with a 16.2 earned run average. The results were perhaps predictable.

He was shelled for four runs and six hits in just 1 and 2-3 innings by California. The Angels went on to crush the Rangers 9-2 in the season finale at Arlington Stadium.

For California, Mike Witt, 8-9, a California native, turned in a fine performance, scattering 10 hits and striking out five.

He was victimized by an out-field throwing error in the second

that accounted for one run and in the ninth he gave up an RBI double.

Led by Don Baylor, who went 4 for 5 and drove in two runs, the Angels stroked 15 hits off three pitchers.

The Angels took a 2-0 lead in the first inning, scoring runs on a single by Baylor and a throwing error.

Whitehouse, 0-1, was chased when Rick Burleson gave California a 4-0 lead in the second. His two-out single drove in Brian Harper and Steve Lubratsich, who had back-to-back singles with one out.

Texas scored its first in the second. Bump Wills was hit by a

pitch to lead off and stole second. He scored on a throwing error when Leon Roberts followed with a single up the middle.

A sacrifice fly by Harper scored Joe Ferguson in the third for a 5-1 lead and Baylor made it 6-1 an inning later, singling home Brian Downing.

Astros beat Dodgers; gear up for playoffs

United Press International
LOS ANGELES — It meant nothing in the final standings, but the Houston Astros may have gotten an important psychological lift by beating the Los Angeles Dodgers in their regular season finale.

The 5-3 victory Sunday, made possible by Alan Knicely's home run in the eighth and key doubles by Dickie Thon and Dave Roberts in the ninth, was the first of the season for the Astros at Dodger Stadium after five straight losses.

Over the past two seasons, the Astros have lost 11 of their last 13 in Los Angeles, with their only victory before Sunday coming in last year's one-game playoff.

The two clubs will meet again in the playoffs — this time in a best-of-five series beginning Tuesday night in Houston to determine the National League West champions. To stay alive, the Astros will have to win at least one game in Los Angeles.

"I think it's important for us to win the first two games at home," Astros manager Bill Virdon said. "We have been having a pretty tough time up here."

"I'm not saying we can't win here, but it's very important to win at home, where we have two games against a possible three away in the playoffs. We've had our problems scoring runs in Los Angeles, but I'm hopeful we'll get over that."

Two Cy Young Award candidates — Fernando Valenzuela and Nolan Ryan — will be matched up in Tuesday night's opener.

Valenzuela finished his rookie season with a 13-7 record, 2.48 ERA and league leadership in innings pitched (192), strikeouts (180), complete games (11) and shutouts (8).

Ryan, meanwhile, was 11-5 with a league-leading 1.69 ERA and a major league record fifth no-hitter.

"The majority of their hitters are left-handers and that should give me an advantage," said Valenzuela, who lost his last three decisions.

"In spite of my three losses I have been feeling good and I think I am in proper shape for this game. When I lost, maybe the other pitcher was throwing better."

Ryan predicted it would be a pitchers' series.

"We definitely have quality pitching and our pitchers know the Dodgers well. Overall, I feel I am at the top of my game. Right now everything seems to have fallen in place for me."

Dodger Manager Tom Lasorda knows a new season starts Tuesday, "It's a whole new game," he said. "Statistics don't mean anything. I believe we are ready. We've been there before. We know what it's all about."

Ryan said the playoff experience the Astros gained last season should help them, too.

"This is a more determined team than last year, and experience is a great thing to have," he said. "You can't put a value on it."

On Sunday, the Astros tied the score in the eighth on Knicely's second homer of the season, off Dave Goltz. In the ninth, Thon led off with a double and later scored on Gary Woods' single. After Woods was out attempting to stretch it into a double, Scott Loucks singled and scored on Roberts' double.

Dave Smith, 5-3, who entered the game in the eighth as the fourth Astros' pitcher, picked up the victory while Goltz fell to 2-7.

Despite having only 56 home dates because of the players' strike, the Dodgers drew 2,387,292 this season for an average of 42,523 per game, the highest in major league history.

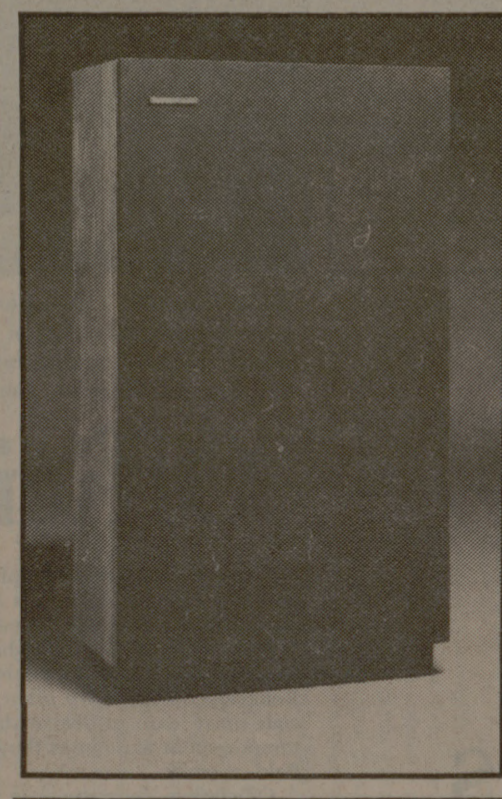
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