

Break two-game win streak

Reds overpower Astros 6-4

United Press International
HOUSTON — The Cincinnati Reds took a tough dose of medicine from Houston Wednesday night, but they handed it right back to the Astros.

Houston, which was sporting a two-game winning streak after snatching the game from the Reds in the bottom of the ninth inning Wednesday night, took a 6-4 beating from Cincinnati Thursday night.

"Give our team credit for coming back after a tough loss last night. We didn't get too many hits, but we made them count," said Cincinnati manager Russ Nixon.

Ted Power recorded his first save of the year as the Reds sent 11 men to the plate in the fifth, scoring six times on three hits, four walks, a catcher's interference play and a wild pitch on a strikeout.

"I liked the way he (Power) went after them tonight. He wanted the baseball and did the job. He has worked hard all year and kept in shape and was ready when we needed him," Nixon said.

Power said he took advantage of an opportunity to prove he could pitch.

"I worked real hard all spring and early in the season, just hoping to get a chance. Tonight was an excellent opportunity to prove I can pitch and I took advantage of it. I've been throwing on the sidelines every other day staying in shape and being prepared to work in game action," he said.

Though the Astros, who started the season with a 0-10 record, had hoped to add more victories to their list, manager Bob Lillis saw the bright spots in the game that broke their two-game winning streak.

"It is always tough to lose, but I thought we had some bright spots out there tonight. Alan Ashby came back from his rib injury with four hits and Ray

Knight continues to make good contact," Lillis said.

"Our rookie pitchers (Mike Madden and Frank DiPino) threw well tonight. We simply left too many guys in scoring position."

The game broke loose in the fifth inning when Cesar Cedeno drove in two runs to highlight a six-run outburst.

Dan Driessen and Ron Oester opened the inning with walks off loser Mike LaCoss, 0-1. Duane Walker lined the next pitch down the right field line to score Driessen and Dann Bilardello then struck out but advanced to first on LaCoss' wild pitch.

Ashby then interfered with Rich Gale to score Oester. Cedeno chased home Walker and Bilardello with a double to the right-center field fence. Verne Ruhle relieved LaCoss only to be greeted by a run-scoring single to right by Eddie Milner.

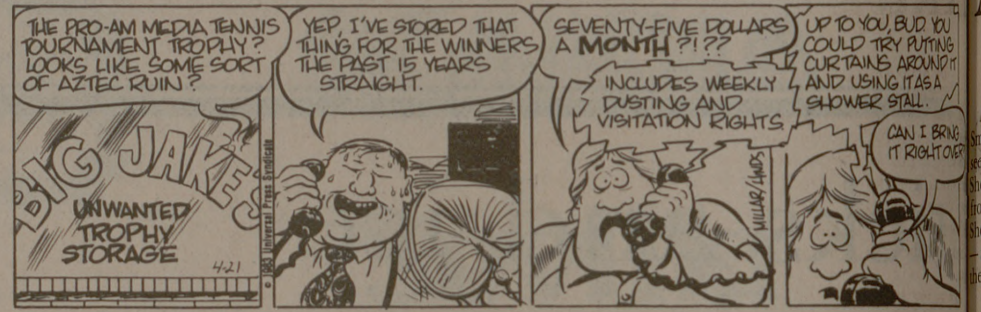
After one out, DiPino relieved Ruhle and walked Bench and Driessen to score the final run of the inning.

Gale, 1-0, went five innings to gain the victory. Power entered the game in the seventh inning with men on first and second and none out. He proceeded to retire the next three batters, including two on strikeouts.

The Astros scored twice in each of the second and seventh innings, with Knight driving in three runs with a double and a single. Ashby, who had four hits, drove in the other run with a second-inning single.

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Hockey

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mentioned. A Canadian native from Ottawa, Ontario, Anderson moved to Palestine, Texas when he was 15. He admits his only information about Texas at the time came from "John Wayne movies." But Anderson says things worked out a little differently than he thought they would.

"When I decided to come to A&M," Anderson says, "I didn't even expect to be reading in the paper about a hockey game, let alone reading about myself playing hockey. It's a pretty weird experience."

"For us to even get back on the ice — and to play a game — was a big accomplishment. We played eight games, and I didn't even think we were going to play one."

Dobrez and Anderson agree the team needs help to continue in the future.

"There's a drive and spirit on the team — but the key (to future success) would be an ice rink on

campus," Dobrez says. "That itself would see us as a team, and would give us the daily gratification that we need. As far as being competitive, I think we could be if we had a rink either right here on campus as part of the university, or very close. Evidence of that is SMU. They don't have a rink on campus, but one in Dallas that they are going to two or three times a week, and that team is very good."

"I won't say that in four years we'd be competing for an national championship, but I think we could legitimately invite these NCAA teams to come down and play us and we wouldn't be embarrassed."

"A lot of guys (on the team) aren't of the calibre," says Anderson, "but what they don't have in talent they make up for in spirit. These guys are giving it their all — I mean, some guys don't get to play, and they're out there keeping stats, helping out. It's guys like that that make you want to keep it going."

Rangers come alive to beat Baltimore

United Press International
BALTIMORE — Texas Rangers manager Doug Rader is glad baseball weather, or at least some form of it, is back.

While losing four out of their last five games in seemingly arctic conditions, the Rangers hit a frigid .198. But when the temperatures warmed up to the 40s Wednesday night, so did the Texas bats as the Rangers erupted for 16 hits on their way

to an 11-2 victory over the Orioles.

"The weather wasn't that bearable," Rader said. "We've been playing in real adverse conditions for about a week. Our lineup is capable of scoring runs, but there have been circumstances that curtailed our production. We scored a lot during our home stand so I knew we'd do it. I was just wondering we'd do it again."

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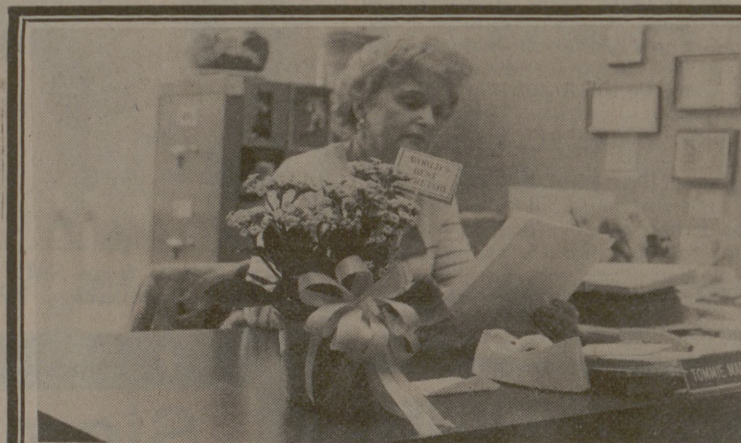
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