

# 1979 HOUSTON ASTROS

89-73 2nd  
MGR Bill Virdon (#7)

## DP: 311 to 334

## Error: 351 to 355

	BA	SB	W/K	HR	T	D	L	R	RNG	Def.		
Cesar Ceden0 #28	.262	30		113	115	135	245	242	AAR	T-1	1B91, OF40(CF)	R R
Rafael Landestoy #17	.270	13		-	115	126	245	244	AAR		2B114, PH, PR, SS3	B R
Craig Reynolds #12	.265	12	MW	-	114	126	236	244	AAR		SS143	L R
Enos Cabell "Big E" #23	.272	37	MW	112	114	133	251	244	S		3B132, 1B51	R R
Jeffrey Leonard #30	.290	23		-	113	125	255	252	AAR	T-1	OF123(RF/CF/LF), PH	R R
Terry Puhl #21	.287	30		113	114	126	252	252	AAR	SD/T-1	OF152(CF/RF/LF)	L R
Jose Cruz #25	.289	36		113	116	141	246	253	S	T-1	OF156(LF)	L L
Alan Ashby #14	.202	0		111	112	126	224	221	SLO		C105	B R
Art Howe #18	.248	3		114	115	132	242	235	AR		2B68, 3B59, 1B3	R R
Julio Gonzalez #9	.249	2	MW	-	112	122	243	235	AR		2B32, SS21, 3B9	R R
Bob Watson "Bull" #27 +	.239	0		114	-	123	236	233	AR		1B44	R R
Denny Walling #29	.327	3		114	124	144	263	265	AR		PH, OF42(RF/LF)	L R
Bruce Bochy #13	.217	0		112	-	123	232	224	SLO		C55	R R
Luis Pujols #8	.227	0	MW	-	113	123	231	231	SLO		C26	R R
Jimmy Sexton #24	.209	1		-	-	-	224	223	AAR	LD	PH, PR, SS11, 3B4, 2B2	R R
Jesus Alou "Jay" #22	.256	0		-	-	142	242	241	SLO		PH, OF6(LF/RF), 1B1	R R
Reggie Baldwin #6	.200	0	MW MK	-	-	125	222	221	SLO	LD-C	PH, C3, 1B1	R R
Danny Heep #20	.143	0		-	-	-	156	161	AR		PH, OF2(LF)	L L
J. R. Richard	.126	0	MW	115	121	123	154	153	SLO		P38	R R
Joe Nickro	.120	0	MW	-	-	115	152	152	SLO		P38	R R
Ken Forsch	.138	0	PK	-	-	114	163	155	SLO		P26	R R
Joaquin Andujar	.088	0	PK	122	-	126	141	141	AR	SD	P46	B R
Rick Williams	.258	0	PK	-	-	121	244	241	SLO		P31	R R
Randy Niemann	.133	0	PK	-	-	-	154	155	SLO		P26	L L
Joe Sambito	.286	0	PW PK	-	-	161	251	252	SLO		P63	L L
Pitcher R	.110	-	MW PK	111	-	113	153	145	SLO			
Pitcher L	.110	-	MW PK	111	-	113	145	146	SLO			

	ERA	IP	W	K	G	GS	SV			
J. R. Richard #50	2.71	292	134	525	38	38	0	.126	R R	James Rodney
Joe Nickro #36	3.00	264	141	626	38	38	0	.120	R R	
Joaquin Andujar #47 SD	3.43	194	142	633	46	23	4	.088	B R	
Ken Forsch #43	3.04	178	123	641	26	24	0	.138	R R	
Rick Williams #38 #65	3.26	121	125	643	31	16	0	.258	R R	
Vern Ruhle #48	4.07	66	116	623	13	10	0	.053	R R	
Joe Sambito #35	1.77	91	126	544	63	0	22	.286	L L	
Randy Niemann #46	3.76	67	133	636	26	7	1	.133	L L	
Bert Roberge #42	1.69	32	151	631	26	0	4	.000	R R	
Frank LaCorte #31 LD X	5.00	27	135	544	12	3	0	.000	R R	
Tom Dixon #37 #51	6.66	26	144	642	19	1	0	1.000	R R	
George Throop #33 X	3.22	22	143	611	14	0	0	.000	R R	(last name pronounced TROOP)
Frank Riccelli #45	4.09	22	163	546	11	2	0	.333	L L	
"Bo" McLaughlin #39 +	5.51	16	125	566	12	0	0	.000	R R	Michael Duane
Pete Ladd #39 #42	2.92	12	156	622	10	0	0	.000	R R	

As a 19-year-old in 1970, Cesar Ceden0 came to the big leagues with the "five tools" everyone raves about. His career was off to a fabulous start until 1974. He suffered through a personal tragedy between the 1973-74 seasons in his native Dominican Republic, and starting with the '74 campaign, his remarkable abilities appeared to be on a puzzling decline. His personal statistics were good, but they did not remain at his previously superior level. In 1978 his season was cut short due to a knee injury. He contracted hepatitis in 1979 which further diminished his talents even more. He played more games at first base than his usual centerfield spot in '79, drove in 54 runs, and stole thirty bases in 132 games...Jose Cruz's nine home runs and 72 RBI were the most on the ball club. Twenty-two-year-old Terry Puhl fit in nicely with his team-leading 172 base hits and 87 runs scored...The pitching staff posted the most complete games in the N. L. (55) and the most shutouts (17). James Rodney Richard, 6 feet 8 inches tall, blew away the competition with his major league-best 313 strikeouts, 9.6 K's per nine innings, and ERA. He completed 19 ballgames. Joe Nickro and his knuckleball won 18 contests and tied brother Phil (ATL) for the most wins in the N. L. (21). The staff ERA (3.20) was the league's second-best...Despite hitting a crooked-looking 49 homers and 58 triples AS A TEAM during the season, the Astros spent a majority of the year in first place of the N. L. West. (Their biggest lead was 10 1/2 games on July 4<sup>th</sup>.) They were up by a half-game over the Reds, September 10<sup>th</sup>, before two back-to-back losses in Cincinnati dropped them to second for the rest of the schedule. The year ended with Houston 1 1/2 games out of first. They beat the Reds in their season series, 10-8.