

MLB TODAY

A Postseason to Remember



PHILLIES vs. ASTROS

November 2022

Up to Bat



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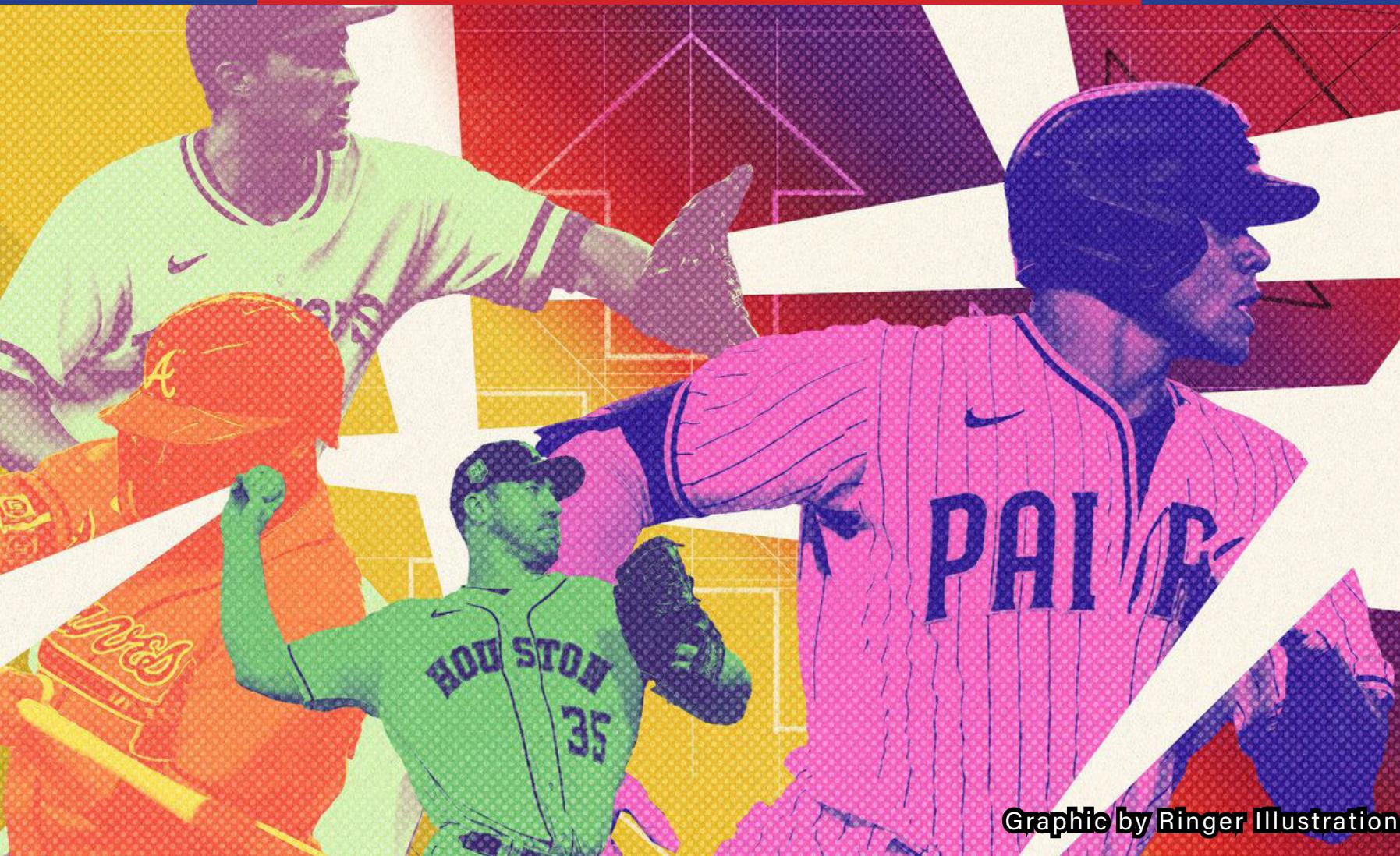
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Graphic by Ringer Illustration



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



by Jack Brown

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Above is Alex Bregman
Photo by Sean M. Haffey

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Above; Editor/Writer Jack Brown
Photo by Meredith Brown

A.L. TEAM OF THE MONTH

2022 American League Champions

HOUSTON ASTROS

by Jack Brown

The Houston Astros finished the season 106-56, clinching the no. 1 seed in the AL. They swept the Seattle Mariners in the ALDS; in game 3, Jeremy Pena hit the game-winning homerun in the 18th inning, this would be the longest playoff game in MLB history. Then, in the ALCS, the Astros pitching staff dominated the New York Yankees by striking out more than 50 hitters in the series. Jeremy Pena would be named NLCS MVP and the Stros' would sweep the Yankees. The Astros enter the World Series undefeated in the playoffs.

Kyle Tucker hit 2 homeruns in Game 1 of the World Series.
Photo by Sean M. Haffey





N.L. TEAM
OF THE MONTH

2022 National League Champions

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES

by Jack Brown

The Philadelphia Phillies finished 87-75, placing third in the NL East division. The Phil's would be the last seed in the playoffs, but they made a run. First, they swept the Cardinals in the Wildcard series; in game 1, they scored 6 runs in the top of the 9th to comeback and win the game down by 3 runs. Then, in the NLDS, the Phillies would beat the Atlanta Braves, taking down the 2021 World Champions. To continue their playoff run, the Phillies beat the red hot San Diego Padres in the NLCS and Bryce Harper would take home the NLCS MVP. The Phillies enter the World Series undefeated at home and hope to bring a title back to Philadelphia for the first time since 2008.

Bryce Harper hitting a homerun in the 2022 World Series.
Photo by Tim Nwachukwu

A POSTSEASON TO REMEMBER...

by Jack Brown

The 2022 MLB season/postseason was filled with exciting and memorable baseball memories to go down in the record books. With new rules and changes, gave more opportunities for baseball fans to cheer and love about the game. Historic feats took place this season like the Seattle Mariners making the playoffs for the first time in over twenty years. In the regular season, Aaron Judge broke Roger Maris's American League (AL) single-season homerun record by hitting 62 dingers in what could have been his final season as a Yankee. The Dodgers finished the season 111-51 (New all-time best in franchise history), however they would be defeated by the San Diego Padres in the NLDS. An absolute upset for the best team in the MLB to lose in the first round, but hey that's baseball.

The Cleveland Guardians would win their division and reach the ALDS in their first season under a new name. The Astros threw a combined no-hitter in game 4 of the World Series which hadn't been done in the WS since Don Larson threw a perfect game in game 5 of the World Series in 1956. The Yankees struck out a record setting 53 times in the 2022 ALCS by the dominate Houston Astros pitching staff. These are just a few of the incredible accomplishments that occurred this year and throughout this article there is more to remember of this historic 2022 playoff journey.

The picture on the right, includes from left to right: Jose Altuve, Christian Vázquez, Yordan Alvarez, Mauricio Dubón, and Trey Mancini. "Air" Yordan Alvarez electrified the crowd when he hit his 3-run homerun in game 1 of the ALDS. The team was trailing by 1 run, until runners got on for the

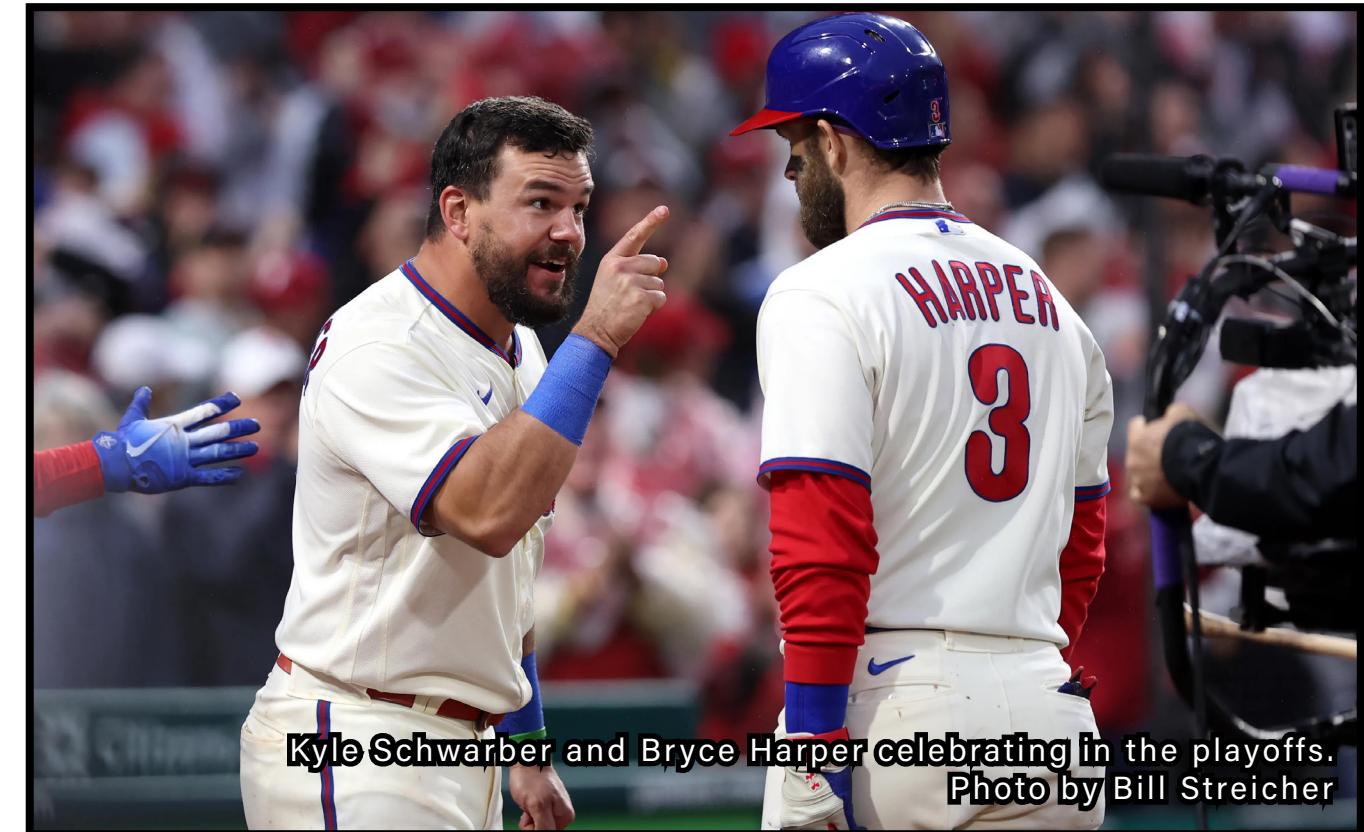
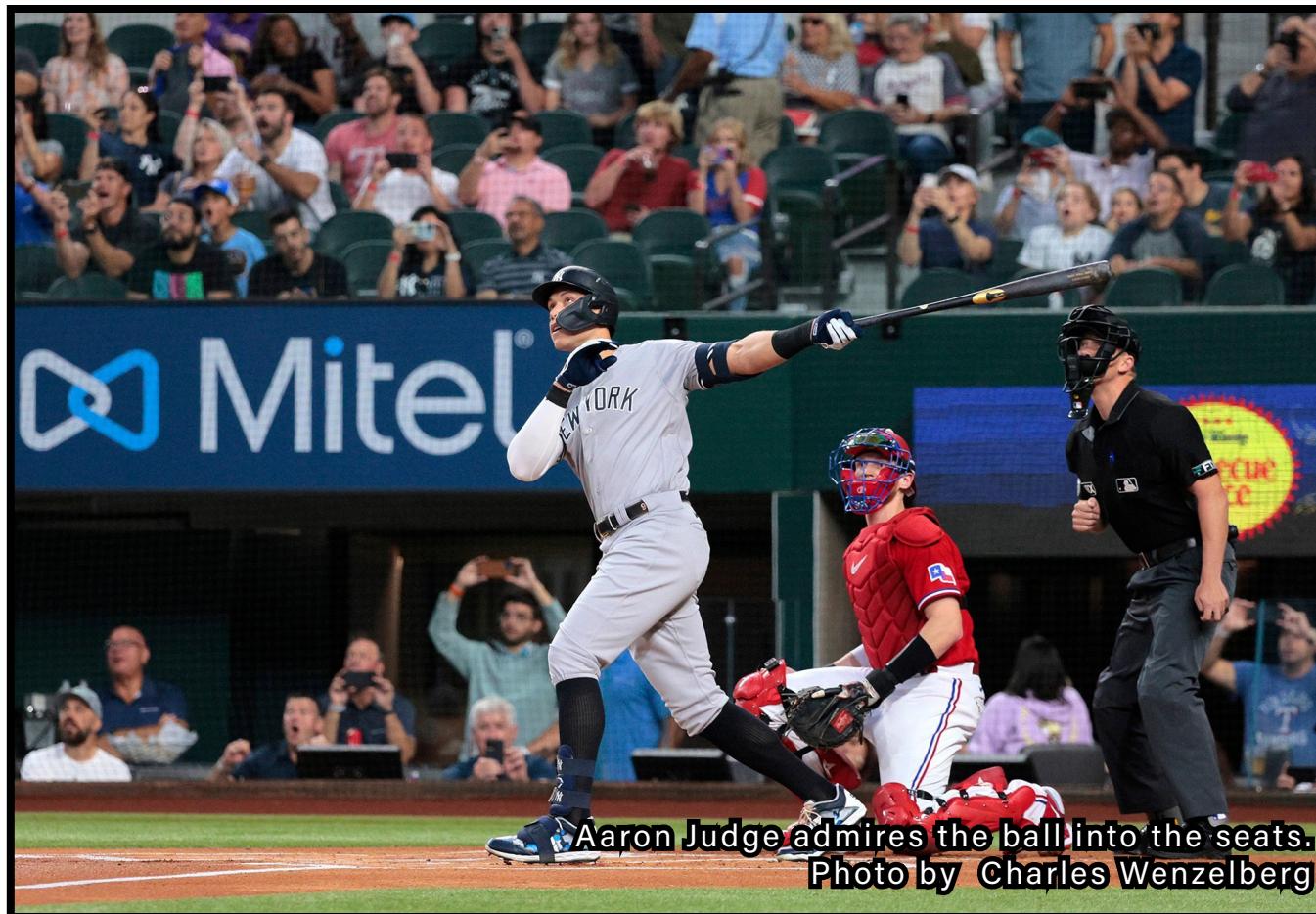


Yordan Alvarez hits walk-off homerun in game 1 of the ALDS.
Photo by Troy Taormina

red-hot Alvarez to take care of business. Important to mention that Jeremy Pena hit a rocket into the right-center-field gap that would put him at second base and Jose Altuve at third base. The Astros would sweep the Seattle Mariners and the New York Yankees on their quest for the World Series crown. They wouldn't have gotten there without the help of Yordan Alvarez, who came up clutch numerous times throughout the Astros historic run.

Two major changes occurred this season, one was the addition of the universal designated hitter (DH) in the AL & National League (NL) which brought more offense and opportunities for NL hitters to get more at-bats. Second, was the added Wildcard Series increasing the amount of playoff teams from 10 to 12. These two changes in the league would directly affect the results of one team in particular, the Philadelphia Phillies. Mid-season, right fielder Bryce Harper suffered an arm injury that restricted

him to not be able to throw which meant he couldn't play defense for the rest of the year. However, he was still able to hit, so Harper continued to play as the team's DH which wouldn't have been allowed last year. Keeping the 2021 NL MVP in the line-up would contribute to the team's elite offense of power hitting sluggers. Also, the Phillies were the sixth seed in the NL playoff just squeaking in due to the added post-season team. Without these additions to the game, it's unknown whether the Phillies would have still reached the World Series, but either way, they took advantage of what they were given.



Kyle Schwarber and Bryce Harper celebrating in the playoffs.
Photo by Bill Streicher

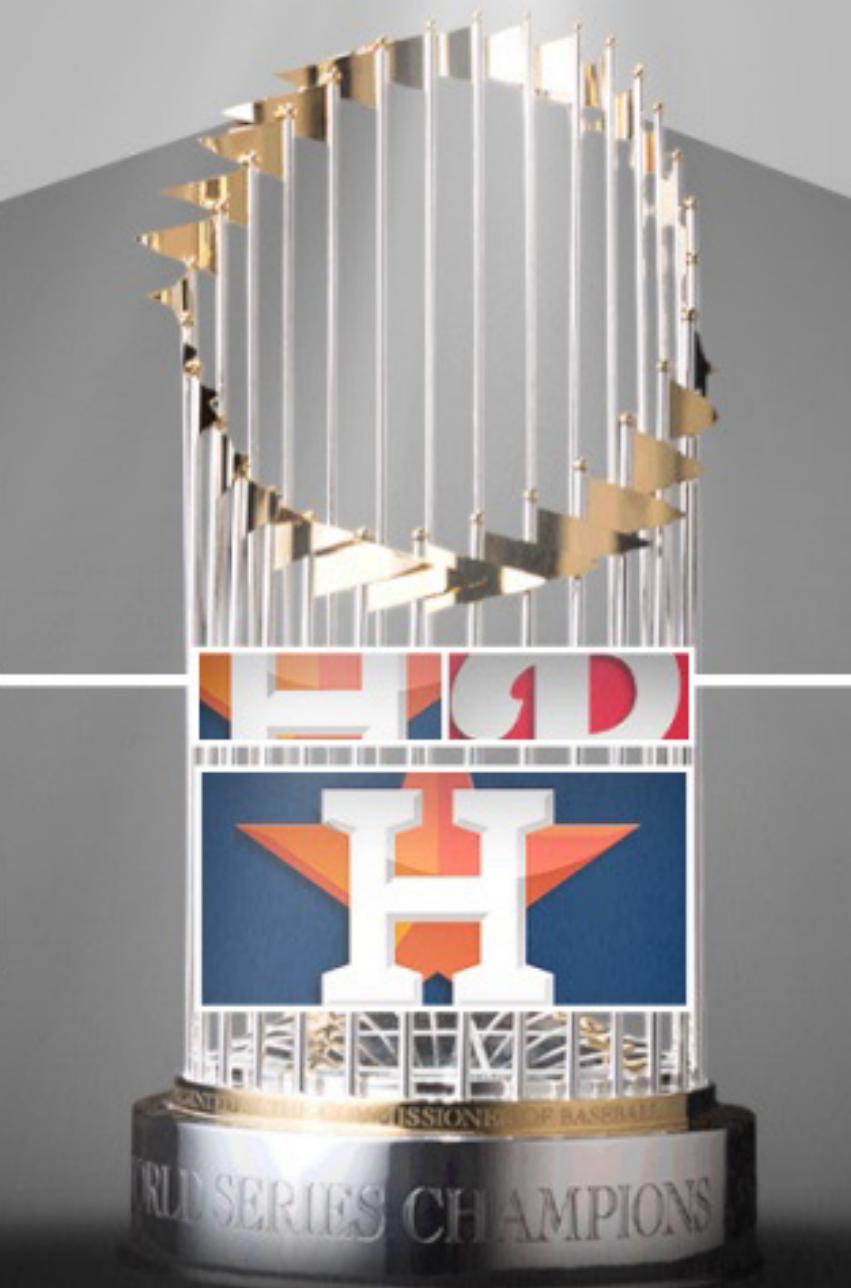
Although the San Diego Padres didn't finish how they expected to, they showed the league that can play with the best teams in the league. They would take down the Mets at Citi Field and slugged their way to victory. Pitchers of the Mets, Jacob DeGrom and Max Scherzer, arguably the best pair of starting pitchers in the MLB could not get it done for their team. To continue, Blake Snell pitched a gem in game 2, along with Yu Darvish's outing the night before led them to the NLDS to face the dominant LA Dodgers. It would be a NL West Division rivalry giving all the odds to the Dodgers since they broke their franchise winning season. They have faced each other numerous times in previous postseason series, but this time the Padres were out for revenge. They would defeat them in four games and would advance to the NLCS where they would lose to the Phillies.

In the AL, the Mariners faced off against the Toronto Blue Jays in the Wildcard Series and game 1 was an offensive battle ending with a

score of 10 to 9, Mariners. The Mariners would come back to win that game after being down by 8 runs. The Blue Jays scored 8 in the first 5 innings, then the M's scored 10 runs in the last 5 innings. The game took a complete change in the wrong direction for the Jay's and would inevitably end their season after getting shutout in game 2. Though the Mariners were hot, they would soon blow their own game in game 1 of the ALDS against the Houston Astros. The M's played better baseball than the Stro's the whole game up in till the bottom of the ninth inning when Yordan hit the walk-off bomb. The Astros completely stole that game from them; it was like the Stro's started off slow and rusty but were able to pick up the pieces along the way and get hot towards the end. The Astros would then go on to sweep the Mariners and Yankees breezing past the competition. The Mariners are an up incoming threat in the AL West and with their young roster they may someday be able to dismantle the Astros.

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MLB POSTSEASON 2022



Graphic by CBS Sports

Justin Verlander

Photo by Eric Gay

Jose Ramirez

Photo by David Dermer

Gerrit Cole

Photo by Vincent Carchietta

The Guardians vs Rays series was an interesting watch since both teams could not hit. Statistically these two teams are very pitching orientated and are low in hitting categories compared to the other playoff teams, so all the games ended up being low-scoring pitching duels. With pitchers on both sides like Shane Bieber, Tristan McKenzie, Tyler Glasnow, and Shane McClanahan there was bound to be a lot of strikeouts and groundouts. The Guardians would defeat the Rays and move onto the next round. The Yanks hosted the Guardians in the ALDS which was quite the show that would take all 5 games to battle it out. Gerrit Cole would take home the victory for the Yanks in game 1 after shutting them out, but the Guardians would respond in the next two games. Shane Bieber pitched great in game 2 which sent the series to Cleveland tied. McKenzie would pitch in game 3, and the offense would score 6 runs with the help of Steven Kwan going 3 for 5 scoring 2 runs. However, electric Gerrit Cole would pitch game 4 in Cleveland and silenced the Guardian's bats and fans. In game 5, the Yankees would win 5 to 1 with Aaron Judge going 2 for 4 with 2 RBI's; he had been in a brief slump before then.

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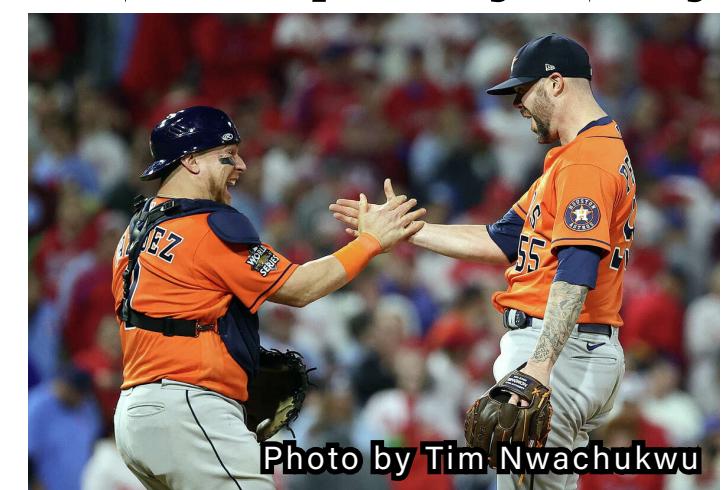
Christian Vazquez and Ryan Pressley

Photo by Tim Nwachukwu

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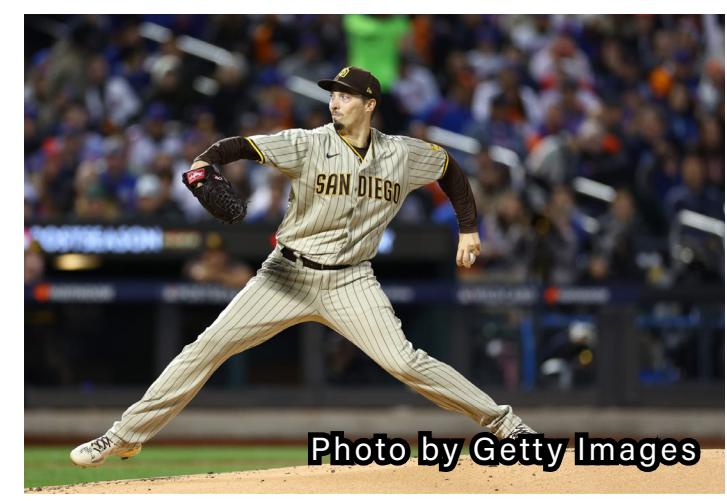
Blake Snell

Photo by Getty Images



Julio Rodriguez touching Homeplate fired up after scoring a crucial run-in the later innings.

Photo by Steph Chambers

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HOUSTON ASTROS!



2022 WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS

Photo by Eric Gay

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Photo by Monica Herndon

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2022 WORLD SERIES

by Jack Brown

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Game 1 hero in the World Series J.T. Realmuto rounding third to score.

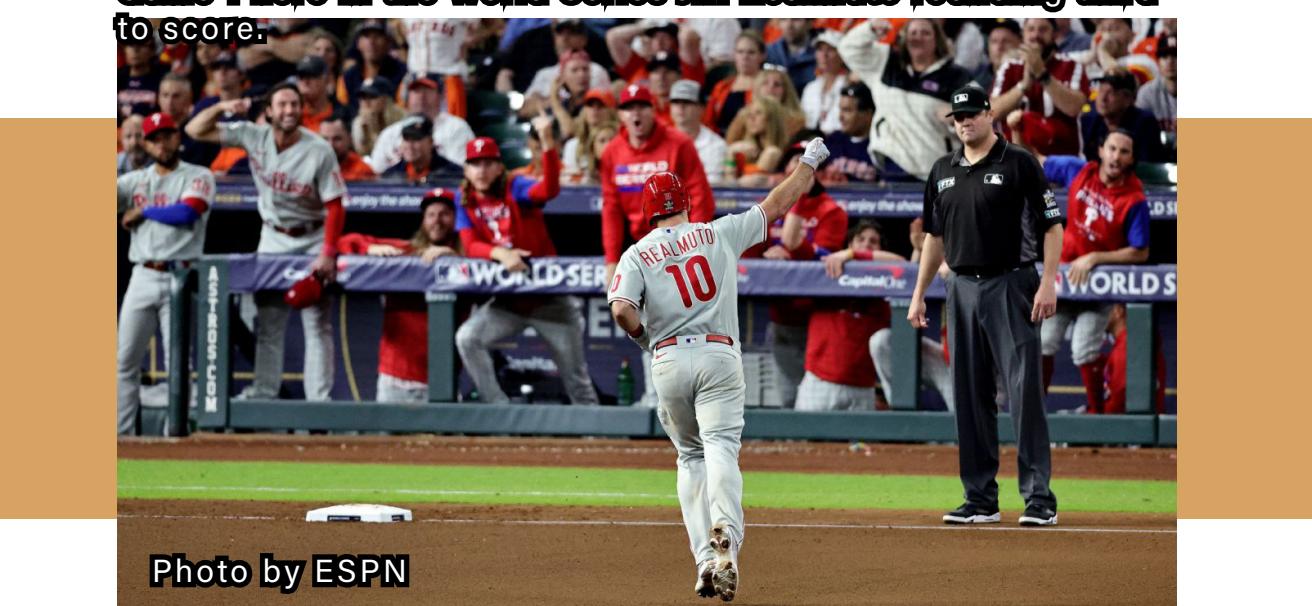
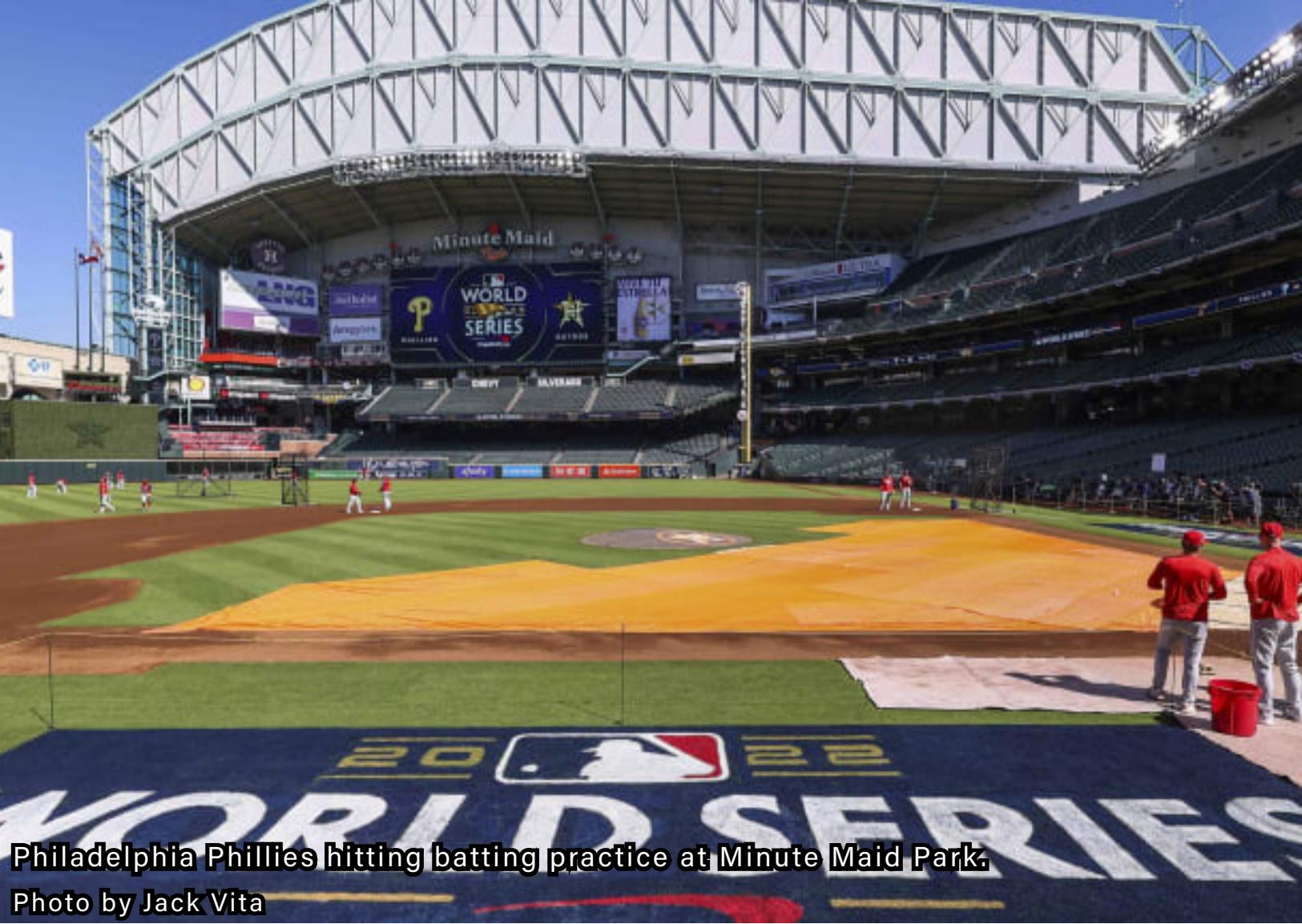


Photo by ESPN



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Philadelphia Phillies hitting batting practice at Minute Maid Park.

Photo by Jack Vita

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Yordan Alvarez hits a moonshot over the center field wall in game 6.



Photo by Getty Images

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Alec Bohm hits 1,000th homerun in World Series history.

Photo by Matt Rourke

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Left to right: Rafael Montero, Bryan Abreu, Cristian Javier, Christian Vazquez, Ryan Pressley.

Photo by Tim Nwachukwu



Houston Astros win second World Series championship in the last 6 years.

Photo by Tony Gutierrez

2023 WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC

by Jack Brown

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The World Baseball Classis (WBC) is set to begin March 8, 2023, in Taichung, Taiwan.



TOURNAMENT FORMAT



Graphic by MLB



Photo by Gary A. Vasquez



2022 Roberto Clemente Award Winner Justin Turner

Photo by Katharine Lotze

AWARD WINNERS



Photo by Cole Burston

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Paul Goldschmidt

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Photo by Getty Images

AWARD WINNERS



Photo by Eric Gay

CY YOUNG AWARD

Justin Verlander

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AWARD WINNERS



Julio Rodriguez

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Sandy Alcantara

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Photo by Michael Reaves

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

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Photo by Todd Kirkland

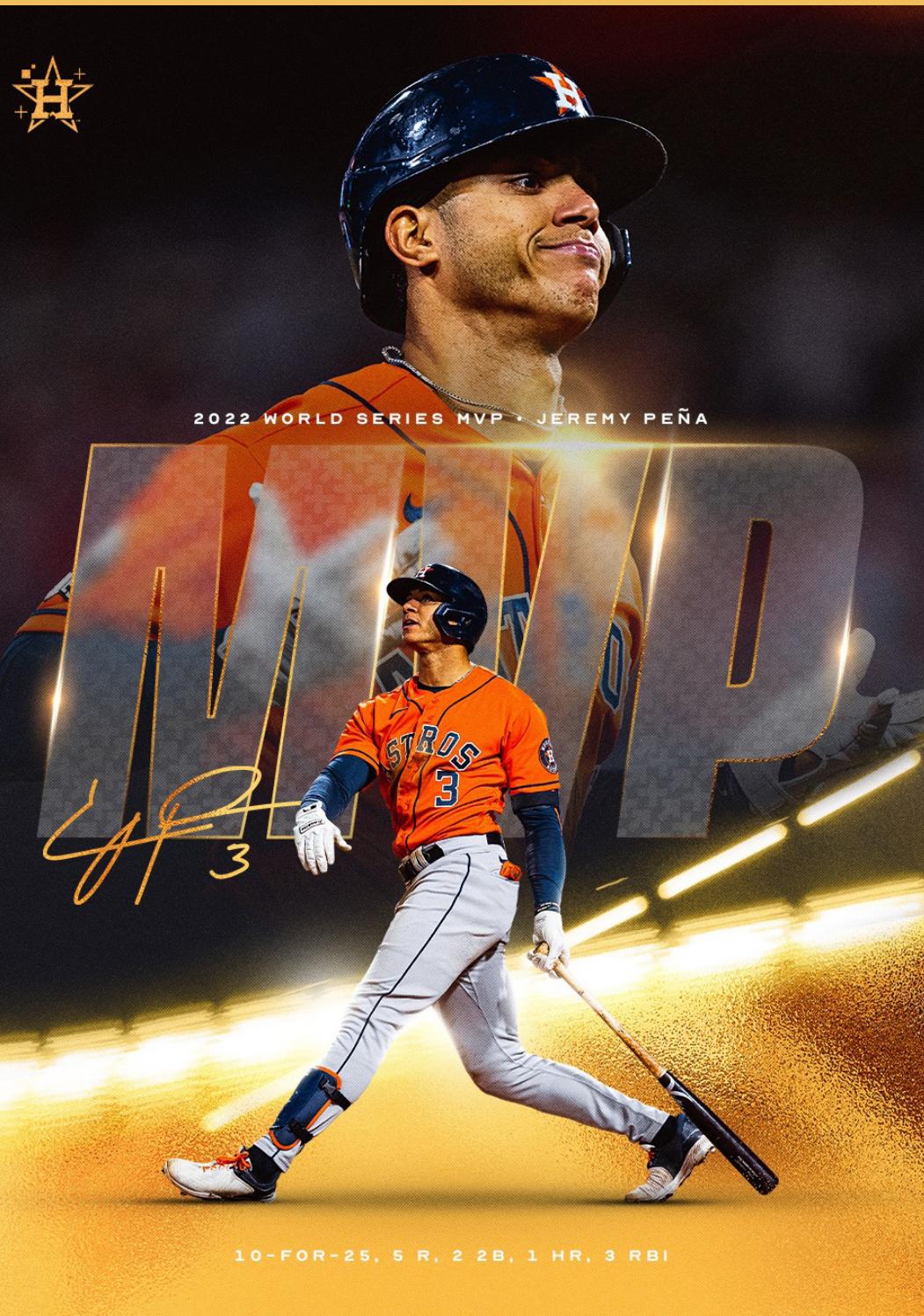


Photo by Astros Official Twitter

ROOKIE SENSATION: JEREMY PEÑA

by Jack Brown



Photo by Bob Levey

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Photo by Reuters

