

Altuve strikes gold on birthday as Astros avoid sweep over Yankees.

NEW YORK -- The Houston Astros will leave New York with a 7-4 win over the Yankees to avoid a sweep in the finale of the three-game series. The Astros heard the Yankee fans booing all week and finally got the bats going late in the game. Astros' right-handed pitcher Andre Scrubb notched a win.

Astros star second baseman Jose Altuve finally created a spark after a subpar 4 for 22 starts to the season at the plate. Today was Altuve's birthday, and it proved to create magic. Altuve went 2 for 5 with 3 RBI's. He hit a go-ahead, three-run home run in the eighth inning of Yankees reliever Chad Green, who has had his troubles with the Astros lineup over the years.

"That was on time. I mean, he couldn't have scripted any better," Astros manager Dusty Baker said.

The Astros fly home this afternoon and begin the three-game homestand Friday against the Toronto Blue Jays.

QUESTIONS:

1. I determined the start of my mini-story by evaluating two critical aspects of the game. The booing and Altuve came out of a slump to put his team on top.
2. The most important aspect of the baseball game was that the Astros avoided a three-game sweep in New York. The credit goes to second baseman Jose Altuve.
3. Yes. I addressed the results in the first sentence and broke down two critical aspects of the game after.
4. I was targeting a national audience because the series was televised nationally on ESPN.