

July 21, 2007

Do a good deed. Help the Astros help the homeless.

The Astros have joined with the Greater Houston Builder's Association this month in a fundraiser to benefit the homeless. I suggested they put Tim Purpura and Drayton McLane in a dunk tank and charge \$10 a throw. That idea was shot down for reasons I still don't understand.

They've come up with something else. They're calling it [Project Playhouse](#), an 8 foot by 10 foot Texas-style cabin that was constructed with donated materials. It's located in its temporary home in MMP's "Squeeze Play" area in right field. Tickets to win the cabin are going for \$5 and being sold at every home game this month.

The playhouse includes a flat screen TV, phone/cable wiring, air conditioning, hardwood floors and a built-in bench and loft. The Astros have decorated the interior with memorabilia. I've heard Purpura's notes from the Jason Jennings deal are there, but can't confirm that. I haven't seen the cabin, but it sounds a lot better than the dirt-floor shack in Ellis County I grew up in. I remember Brian McTaggart once telling me he didn't have running water until he was something like 28 or 29. It's always funny to visit his hotel room and see him rinsing out his one pair of socks in the sink. In other words, this place is nice.

I'm buying a couple hundred tickets and giving them to David Barron as incentive to give me some nice press when my big radio show debuts August 20 on 1560 The Game. I still think Drayton in a dunk tank would generate more revenue, but that's just me.

