

Phillies celebrate victory over Marlins

Associated Press story

MIAMI—The Philadelphia Phillies have started another streak in Florida, and this one is more to their liking.

Pat Burrell hit a three-run homer and Eric Milton won for the first time in more than a month, leading the Phillies to a 12-4 victory over the Marlins on Wednesday night. Mike Lieberthal, Jason Michaels and Placido Polanco each added two-run homers in the Phillies' second win in two nights at Florida after having lost 14 straight at Pro Player Stadium.

"It's unbelievable, especially since last year, we felt these guys knocked us out of our chance to go on," said Burrell, who hit his first homer in 81 at-bats at Florida. "It's nice to have a little revenge."

Milton (14-4) gave up one run and three hits, and struck out four in 6 1-3 innings in his first win since Aug. 21 at Milwaukee — a span of six starts. He retired 10 straight before Mike Lowell homered to lead off the seventh. "I think everybody enjoys beating these guys, especially what they've done to us this year," Milton said. "I know it's my first year (with the Phillies), but I know I've enjoyed these last two nights."

Philadelphia, which moved within one game of second-place Florida in the NL East, will go for the series sweep Thursday night. Florida is 11-3 overall against the Phillies this season.

"We have a lot of catching up to do," Phillies manager Larry Bowa said of his team's rivalry with the Marlins.

Damon Easley and Chris Aguila homered for Florida, which won

its previous seven games against left-handed starters. The Marlins entered the day 5 1/2 games behind front-running San Francisco in the NL wild-card race.

Logan Kensing (0-3) allowed six runs and four hits in 4 2-3 innings — his longest outing in four career appearances, including three starts. He also hit a batter and threw two wild pitches, one



Photo courtesy of <http://phialdelphiaphillies.mlb.com>

Mike Lieberthal shatters his bat druing a great hit over the fence for a homerun. The Phillies are having a good season so far, seated close to the first place spot.

which scored a run.

"It's kind of hard seeing these guys play their butts off all year and not being able to get the job done," said Kensing, who was promoted from Class A on Sept. 7. "I just have to get better."

Marlins manager Jack McKeon said Kensing has been over-

matched.

"It's tough coming out of 'A' league," McKeon said. "You don't see (Jim) Thome, (Bobby) Abreu, (Sammy) Sosa down there. He's certainly not ready to pitch up here."

Lieberthal's homer keyed a three-run second inning that gave the Phillies a 3-0 lead.

Jim Thome hit a leadoff double, went to third on David Bell's

the fourth.

Kensing left after allowing Bell's RBI double that gave Philadelphia a 6-0 lead in the fifth.

Jimmy Rollins singled twice in the Phillies' five-run seventh that made it 11-0.

Rollins led off with a base hit and Polanco homered to left on a 1-2 pitch from Aaron Small. One out later, Thome walked, Bell singled, Michaels flied out and Burrell homered to left on a 1-0 count, giving the Phillies an 11-0 lead.

Lowell homered off Milton and Brendan Harris drove in a run with a groundout in the seventh to make it 11-2.

Easley homered off Amaury Telemaco to open the eighth.

Lou Collier added an RBI double for the Phillies in the ninth, and Aguila hit his first career homer for the Marlins off Geoff Geary.

Notes: @ Juan Pierre's first-inning infield single gave him 200 hits for the third time in his career. He joined Ichiro Suzuki (2001-04), Derek Jeter (1998-2000) and Alex Rodriguez (1996, '98, 2001) as the only active players with three or more 200-hit seasons. ... Alex Gonzalez's third-inning double to left-center was Florida's first hit beyond the infield in the series. The Marlins had three infield singles Tuesday night. ... Reliever Felix Rodriguez, expected to rejoin the Phillies on Tuesday, remained in the Dominican Republic on Wednesday because of visa problems. He went there to attend his grandmother's funeral. ... Florida's Miguel Cabrera struck out three times. ... Milton had nine no-decisions in his previous 14 starts.

PENN STATE FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

9/4	Akron	H	W 48-10
9/11	Boston College	A	L 21-7
9/18	Central Florida	H	W 37-13
9/25	Wisconsin	A	5:45pm
10/2	Minnesota	A	TBA
10/9	Purdue	H	4:30pm
10/23	Iowa	H	TBA
10/30	Ohio State	A	TBA
11/6	Northwestern	H	TBA
11/13	Indiana	A	TBA
11/20	Michigan State	H	TBA

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Gasparato leaves PSU after injury

Provided by Associated Press

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. (AP) — Mike Gasparato, a seldom-used senior tailback, left the Penn State football team because of repeated injuries.

Gasparato said that he

injuries."

Gasparato earned all-state honors at Dutch Fork High School in Irmo, S.C., but never worked his way into the rotation at Penn State. In 2002, Gasparato played behind Larry Johnson, Penn State's only



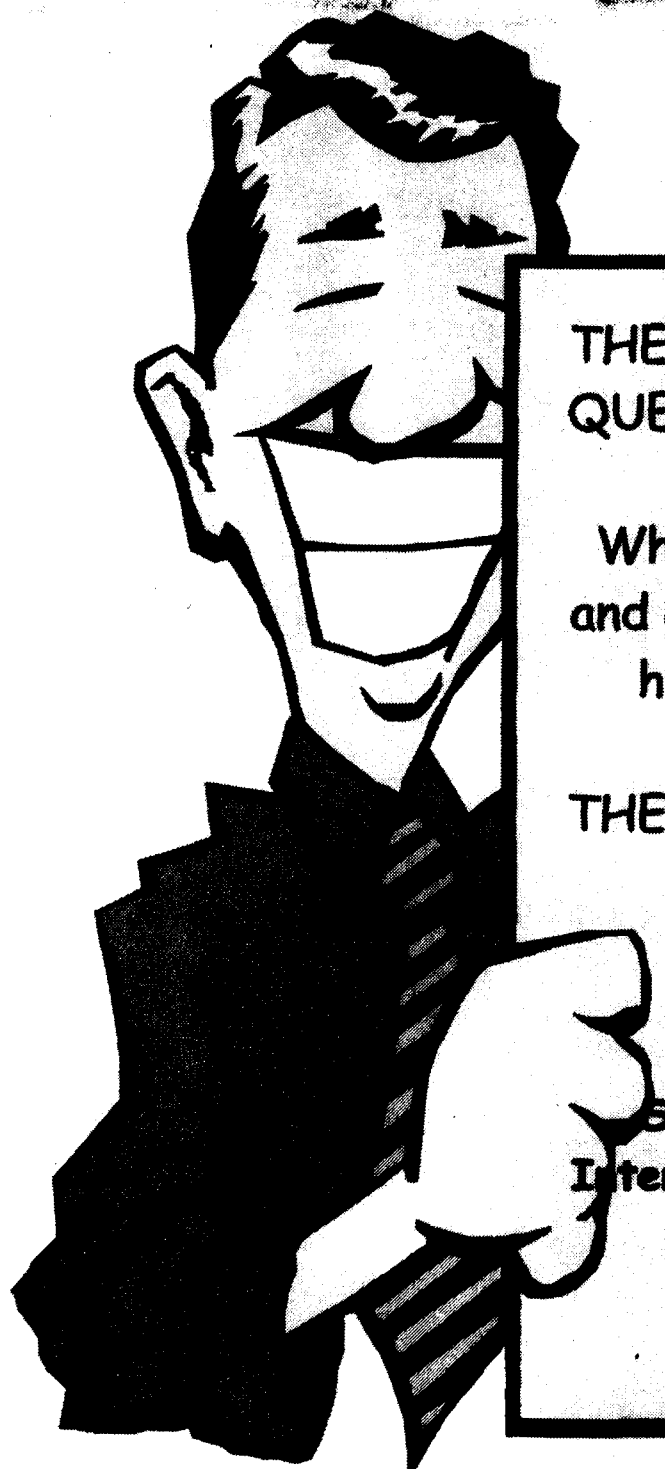
Photo courtesy of The Penn State Collegian

Mike Gasparato carries the ball for a Penn State gain in a game last season. Gasparato is leaving PSU after another injury occurred during Saturday's game.

sprained an ankle during last Saturday's 37-13 victory over Central Florida. He has carried seven times for 38 yards and one touchdown this season.

"I no longer can run well enough to compete or help the team as much as I would like to," Gasparato said. "The ankle injury was the last straw. I could not withstand any further

2,000-yard rusher, gaining 158 yards on 32 attempts. He has tendinitis in his knees, and a left hamstring tear during preseason drills last year sidelined him for the 2003 season.



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