

Eye On Sports

Phightin' Phils Get Revenge on Brewers

By Thomas Alan McGlinchey
Lion's Eye Sports Editor
tam5160@psu.edu

The Philadelphia Phillies were in the same position as last season, one thing that was not certain was whether or not they were going to have the same result. Apparently not. After a short lived postseason in 2007, the Phillies were out for revenge in the National League (NL) Divisional Series in 2008. The team that stood in their way was the Milwaukee Brewers, who slid into the postseason by the skin of their teeth. The Brewers were in the same situation that the Phightins' were in last year. With the Mets breathing down their necks would the Brew Crew be able to hold them off? Apparently so.

Game 1 of the series was in Philadelphia. The Brewers had the same goose-bumps that the Phillies did last postseason. The Phillies decided to place their ace Cole Hamels on the mound for Game 1 of the 2008 NLDS.

In Game 1, the Phillies came out swinging, and with the rally towels flying, the team fed off of that and won the game, 3-1.

In Game 2, Brett Myers was the surprising star, with 6 strong innings of pitching and one hit offensively, the Phils took a 2-0 lead in the series with an eventual 5-2 victory.

With the series moving to Milwaukee, the teams looked like they were out of gas and were not playing to their full potential, or they wanted to make the series interesting. The Brewers put on a hitting clinic against the veteran Jamie Moyer. The Phils fell behind 4-1, going into the top of the 9th. The bases were loaded with no outs and 3rd baseman Pedro Feliz hits into a double play to end the Phillies fans hopes of a sweep in the NLDS.

In Game 4, in Milwaukee, the Phightins' came out swinging the lumber. The hitting was started with a lead off home run by shortstop Jimmy Rollins, to give the Phillies the early 1-0 lead. With the game close, Pat "the Bat" Burrell came up big in the end with a 3-run home run to give the Phillies a 4-0 lead with the final 3 innings to be

played before the Phillies would make the NL Championship Series. Then the next batter was Jayson Werth and he belted a bomb into the Brewers seats at Miller Park. After the Werth homer, Pat Burrell hit his second one of the game in the 7th, to make the score 6-1, and out of reach for the Brewers. The Brewers tried coming back, when power hitter Prince Fielder hit a solo home run to cut the deficit from 6-1 to 6-2.

With the bottom of the 9th looming it seemed to be time for Brad "Lights Out" Lidge. Brad Lidge has been perfect in the regular season with 41 saves in as many opportunities as he was given. He frightened the Philly fans when he started the 9th inning by getting jammed, making appear like the Phils would have to play a fifth and final game. Lidge has been lights out though, and he was able to finish the inning and finish the Brewers in the end.

National League Division Series:

Philadelphia Phillies
vs
Milwaukee Brewers

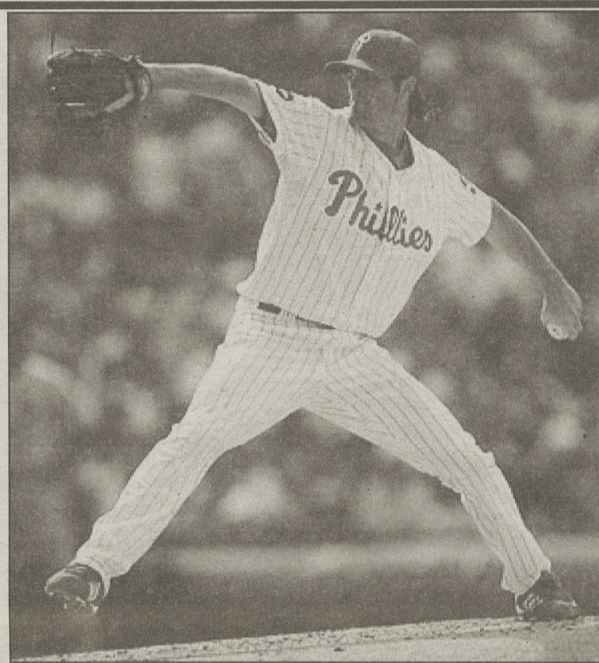
Game 1: Phillies win 3-1

Game 2: Phillies win 5-2

Game 3: Brewers win 4-1

Game 4: Phillies win 6-2

Phillies win Best of 5 series 3-1



Cole Hamel. (courtesy of Sports Illustrated)

National League Championship Series:

Philadelphia Phillies
vs
Los Angeles Dodgers

Game 1: Phillies win 3-2

Game 2: Phillies win 8-5

Game 3: Dodgers win 7-2

Game 4: Phillies win 7-5

Game 5: Phillies win 5-1

Phillies win Best of 7 series 4-1

Phils End 15 Year Drought

By Thomas Alan McGlinchey
Lion's Eye Sports Editor
tam5160@psu.edu

In the 15 years since the Philadelphia Phillies made the World Series, they have been hungry to return and with the group of players that manager Charlie Manuel has this season, he could not wish for anything more.

In the National League Division Series (NLDS) against the Milwaukee Brewers, the Phillies were dominant in keeping the opposition at bay. In the National League Championship Series, the Phillies had to play a tougher team in the Los Angeles Dodgers of the NL West. The Dodgers swept the favored Chicago Cubs in their NLDS games. So, the Phillies fans were a little scared but had a lot of faith in their team to defeat the Dodgers.

In Game 1, the Phillies placed ace Cole Hamels on the mound to get them off to a great start. With that being said, Cole sparked the teams flame going 7 innings and only giving up one run. With the help of Chase Utley, the Phils jumped on the wave of their Game 4 win over Milwaukee to take Game 1 from the Dodgers, 3-2.

In Game 2, Brett Myers came out swinging and had a productive game on the mound and in the batters box. He went numerous innings and had three surprising hits in the game. The game was capped with a few crucial hits from Shane Victorino. The Phils took a 2-0 lead in the series with a high scoring game, 8-5.

As we move from Philadelphia to Los Angeles, the spirits of the Philly fans were high. The spirits fell a few octaves in

Game 3. Jamie Moyer, who had a rough outing in Game 3 of the Divisional Series, had another rough outing in the Game 3 of this series. The Los Angeles Dodgers put a hurting on the Phillies in Game 3. The Phillies tried to make a comeback, which they have been doing all season, but the Dodgers were too powerful in the end, making the series 2-1 with a 7-2 win.

In Game 4, Shane Victorino and Matt Stairs were the heroes. The Phils fell behind from a few home runs from the Dodgers, but roared back and cut the lead to 5-3. Then came the top of the 8th, with one on, and Victorino came to the plate with a hitter's count. He received a pitch that he drove shortly into the right field bullpen. This home run tied the game 5-5, then with a base hit by Carlos Ruiz, Matt Stairs was called on to finish the job. He found himself in a hitter's count 3 balls, 1 strike, and he was looking for a fastball. He found the fastball and smashed it into the right field bleachers. The closer for the Phillies, Brad Lidge came in to shut the door and that is what he did. The Phils found themselves one win away from a trip to the World Series, with a win 7-5.

In Game 5, the Phillies clinched the NCLS, with Cole Hamels on the mound again. Hamels was lights out and found himself in the midst of a third win in this year's postseason. The lead hitter, Jimmy Rollins, hit a home run, which he did in the Divisional Series clincher. The Phillies finished off the Dodgers in 5 games with a 5-1 win, making the World Series for the first time since the 1993 World Series against Joe Carter and the Toronto Blue Jays.

2008 Major League World Series

Game 1: Wednesday October 22, 2008 @ Tampa Bay

Game 2: Thursday October 23, 2008 @ Tampa Bay

Game 3: Saturday October 25, 2008 @ Citizens Bank Park

Game 4: Sunday October 26, 2008 @ Citizens Bank Park

* Game 5: Monday October 27, 2008 @ Citizens Bank Park

* Game 6: Wednesday 29, 2008 @ Tampa Bay

* Game 7: Thursday October 30, 2008 @ Tampa Bay

All Games start @ 8:00PM on FOX

Philadelphia Eagles Schedule 2008

Oct 26 vs. Atlanta Flacons @ Lincoln Financial Field @ 1:00 PM

Nov 2 @ Seattle Seahawks @ 4:15 PM

Nov 9 vs. New York Giants @ Lincoln Financial Field @ 8:15 PM

Nov 16 @ Cincinnati Bengals @ 1:00 PM

Nov 23 @ Baltimore Ravens @ 1:00 PM

Nov 27 vs. Arizona Cardinals @ Lincoln Financial Field @ 8:15 PM

Dec 7 @ New York Giants @ 1:00 PM

Dec 15 vs. Cleveland Browns @ Lincoln Financial Field @ 8:30 PM

Dec 21 @ Washington Redskins @ 1:00 PM

Dec 28 vs. Dallas Cowboys @ Lincoln Financial Field @ 1:00 PM

