

Dykstra powers Mets to win

By JOHN NELSON
AP Baseball Writer

BOSTON — This time, the New York Mets had their backs to the right wall.

Losers of the first two games in New York and facing the prospect of virtual elimination with another loss, the Mets got their high-powered offense going in Fenway Park on last night, beating the Boston Red Sox 7-1 in Game Three of the World Series.

Lenny Dykstra had four hits, including a homer to lead off the game against Red Sox right-hander Dennis "Oil Can" Boyd. The Mets wound up with 13 hits, one more than they had in the first two games combined. Gary Carter had two hits and three RBI for New York.

Unfazed by the Green Monster, the 37 and one-half-foot high wall in left field that has been the undoing of so many left-handers, Bob Ojeda shut down his former teammates for seven innings in pitching the first Mets victory in this best-of-seven game series. Roger McDowell pitched two perfect innings of relief for New York.

"Lenny with that leadoff home run — you could feel it on the bench," Ojeda said. "Everyone felt good. We weren't in that corner yet, but we were leaning on it."

The victory sent the Mets into Game Four tonight with Ron Darling, 15-6, their Game One loser pitching on three days' rest against Al Nipper, 10-12, who has yet to make a pitch in postseason play. Darling allowed three hits and one run over seven innings to lose the Series opener.

"We had something to prove tonight to ourselves," Dykstra said. "We didn't win 100 games this year for nothing."

The Mets scored four of their runs in the first inning, aided by a blown rundown on the Red Sox.

"It's a best-of-four game series now," Red Sox Manager John McNamara said. "We have to win two and they have to win three."

Mets Manager Davey Johnson said the change of scenery might help boost the Mets out of their offensive doldrums.

"We might have been pressing in front of the home crowd, or we might have had trouble coming back from that tough playoff," Johnson said of the National League pennant series against Houston. "But we had a good day off (Monday) and now we're on the road. I know the intensity today was the best I've seen it all year."

The Mets had lost the first two games at New York 1-0 and 9-3. Only one team, the 1985 Kansas Royals, has ever lost the first two games at home and won the Series. No team ever has lost the first three games and recovered.

Ojeda, who won 18 games after he was traded to the Mets from Boston last December, allowed five hits in the seven innings he pitched. He allowed only a third-inning run in becoming the first left-hander to beat Boston at Fenway Park in a World Series game since Hippo Vaughn of the Chicago Cubs in 1918. The Red Sox also were in the World Series in 1946, '67 and '75.

Ojeda, 20-17 lifetime in Fenway Park, walked three and struck out six. In the second and sixth innings, Ojeda got former batterymate Rich Gedman on called third strikes for the third out with runners at second base.

After the first inning, the emotional Boyd got his delicate act back together, retiring 11 in a row at one point, but the bulk of the damage already had been done. Boyd, who won 16 games this season, allowed six runs on nine hits over seven innings before he was relieved by Joe Sambilo.

New York scored a pair of runs in the seventh off Boyd on Carter's bases-loaded, two-out single.

Sambilo gave up a run-scoring double by Ray Knight in the eighth. The Mets, who sent nine men to the plate in the first inning against Boyd, were aided in their effort when the Red Sox botched a rundown play on Keith Hernandez between home and third.

Dykstra led off with a homer down the right-field line on a 1-1 pitch from Boyd, who had given up three homers in the playoffs.

Wally Backman followed with a single and went to third on a single by Hernandez. Carter hit a double that rolled to the wall in left-center, scoring Backman and sending Hernandez to third.

Darryl Strawberry struck out and that brought up Knight, whose bounce to third started the bizarre rundown.

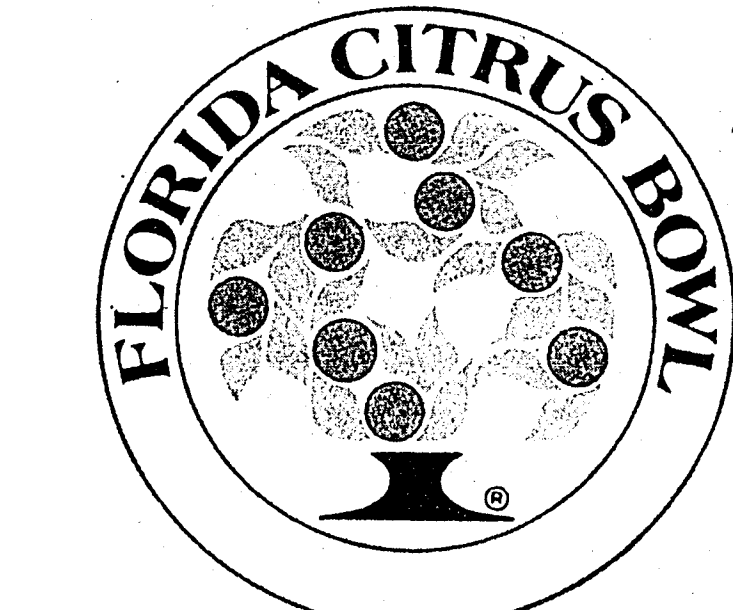
Red Sox third baseman Wade Boggs felled Knight's grounder and threw home as Hernandez broke for the plate. When Hernandez retreated toward third, catcher Gedman threw back to Boggs.

But Boggs had wandered too far from third base and had to turn and throw to shortstop Spike Owen, who was covering the base. Hernandez slid in ahead of the throw to Owen.

Carter, who had advanced toward third when Hernandez headed home, scampered back toward second as fast as his banged-up knees would carry him. Owen ran Carter back toward second, and Hernandez slid toward home. "That's when I looked at indecision cost Owen. He looked toward Hernandez as Carter retreated safely to second. Hernandez went back to third, and Knight was safe at first on a fielder's choice.



White Mets pitcher Bob Ojeda, above, provided the defense holding Boston to one run in seven innings. Len Dykstra, below, provided the offense with four hits to lead New York to a 7-1 victory over the Red Sox in Game 3 of the World Series last night in Boston.



Will Bowl Day mean Citrus for the Lions?

By MARK ASHENFELTER
Collegian Sports Writer

It may be early — the season just passed the halfway mark last weekend — but already talk of bowl trips can be heard in Happy Valley.

The preliminary talks have centered around the traditional post-season stomping grounds for the Lions. Plans are being made to spend afternoons on Miami Beach before the Orange Bowl or countless hours cruising Bourbon Street before the Sugar Bowl.

But these plans could be put on hold by an unlikely source — the Florida Citrus Bowl. So instead of tanning and drinking, Lion fans may have a chance to visit Mickey Mouse and Epcot Center.

The Citrus Bowl — which will be played this season on Jan. 1, 1987 — wouldn't be a contingency plan in case the Lions stumble against Alabama, either. As it now stands there's no possibility that the Lions could meet No. 1 Miami for the national championship.

The rumors, first published in USA TODAY last week, suggested that ABC-TV might be the force behind the matchup. The network televises the Citrus Bowl and may want a game to determine the national championship in order to gain visibility for the latest entry on the New Year's Day block.

Some credibility to the rumors was given by Manny Garcia and John Day, two representatives of the Lions who watched the Lions defeat Syracuse last Saturday at Beaver Stadium. But both stressed they didn't plant the idea in the media.

"But I really think they got it from ABC," Garcia said. "It'll be a super idea." Day quickly agreed. "Garcia feels that Penn State would be a good representative for the bowl. "Penn State's a good attraction not only because they bring a lot of peo-

ple, but because they're a great TV team," he said. "We had Ohio State and BYU last year and Ohio State's a highly visible team with high TV ratings. I'd say Penn State is as good (as Ohio State) and probably even better."

But a few things would have to happen before the plans are finalized. Foremost, Penn State and Miami must remain undefeated. The Lions face their biggest test Saturday against Alabama and Miami could have its toughest challenge against Florida State on Nov. 1.

Then there's the issue of money — or the lack of it. The Citrus Bowl currently pays \$900,000 to both of the two teams. The other top bowls that the Lions and Hurricanes could choose from — including the Fiesta and Cotton — pay closer to \$2 million per team.

That's where ABC enters the picture, according to Garcia. "The scenario would have to be if there were two independents undefeated — in this case Miami and Penn State — that don't have any place to play each other on New Year's Day," Garcia said. "If that happens then they'd have to want to play each other and ABC would have to match what they'd get at the Sugar, Orange or Cotton Bowls, which is another million dollars."

There are two bowls — the Citrus and Fiesta — where two undefeated independents can meet and Day said ABC would rather have them in the Citrus Bowl, instead of in the Fiesta, which is televised by NBC-TV.

"The scenario I see is that Penn State would want to play Miami, but Miami might want to go somewhere else," Garcia said. "I think Miami would prefer to travel to the Orange Bowl and play there."

"But I think Miami would go anywhere that it would have to have a chance to play for No. 1 in the country."

Eager to play, Flutie signs with Bears

By JOE MOOSHIL
AP Sports Writer

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — Doug Flutie, "anxious to get into the National Football League and onto the playing field," signed a contract with the Super Bowl champion Chicago Bears yesterday.

The 1984 Heisman Trophy winner from Boston College signed 1987 and 1988 contracts as well as one for the current season which would make him eligible to be placed on the active roster Nov. 4.

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"Practice starts at 1:30 (today)," said Bears Coach Mike Ditka, who was instrumental in bringing the 5-9 quarterback back to the Bears.

Flutie was signed after Ditka termed the Bears' quarterback situation unstable because of injuries which have sidelined McMahon for three games this season.

Flutie hasn't played football since the spring of 1985, but, "I don't feel rusty now. Maybe my body will feel it in a week or two. We'll see what happens."

Flutie was brought into the Bear camp on a day where the rest of the team was off.

"I have not met the players," Flutie said. "I understand the situation of new guy coming in. There are loyalists. I have to deal with that. I want to impress the coaches and get my opportunities."

The Bears obtained the rights to Flutie last week from the Los Angeles Rams. The Bears traded a third-round draft choice for a fourth-round choice and gave up a sixth-round pick in the 1987 draft.

Flutie, who received \$1.3 million from owner Donald Trump to play the 1985 spring season with the New Jersey Generals of the United States Football League, will receive \$175,000 a year from the Bears.

His salary this season will be prorated, which will entitle him to about \$100,000 for the balance of this season. In four seasons at Boston College, Flutie passed for an NCAA-record 10,579 yards and 67 touchdowns. In nine games in the USFL, he completed 134 of 281 passes for 2,109 yards and 13 touchdowns before suffering a broken collarbone.

"I'm fine physically. The Bears' doctors checked me out," Flutie said. Last week, Bears head coach George Allen and regular quarterback Jim McMahon in particular criticized management for acquiring Flutie.

"I don't feel threatened and I don't think the criticism is pointed directly at me as Doug Flutie personally, but to a new player," Flutie said.



Doug Flutie

NBA shooting for expansion by 1990

By WALTER BERRY
AP Sports Writer

PHOENIX, Ariz. — The NBA's Board of Governors voted yesterday to expand by one to three teams, but not before two years from now at the earliest and possibly not until the 1990-91 season.

NBA Commissioner David Stern announced at a news conference that a five-member expansion committee would be formed and would decide on the sites and timetable for expansion, which will be announced next April in New York.

The new teams would be added between the 1988-89 and 1990-91 seasons.

The 23-member pro basketball league last added a new team in 1980, when Dallas was granted a franchise.

"The NBA has reached a point in strength where the next logical step for us is to expand. The vote was unanimous, 23-0," Stern said. "The collective force of the presentations given by six cities here this week put away any doubts that we should not be moving aggressively forward."

Representatives from six cities — Toronto, Minneapolis, Miami, Fla., Orlando, Fla., Orange County, Calif., and Charlotte, N.C. — all delivered 30-minute presentations to the board Monday.

Stern said the expansion committee "will meet with each of the six applicants again and with any more (cities) that come forward. I would not be surprised that in the next 60 days, there are not more applicants."

Lewis Schaffel, a former general manager of the New Jersey Nets who is representing the Miami expansion group, said he believes the league may decide to expand sooner than 1990.

"If they say there is expansion by 1988, everybody will be happy," Schaffel said.

"I think that it's possible," Stern said when asked about the 1988 timetable. "We're really looking for an orderly program for expansion. We have six first-class cities to choose from so far."

Named as chairman of the expansion committee was Richard Bloch, who is president of the Phoenix Suns. Stern said the other committee members will be William Davidson of the Detroit Pistons, Herb Simon of the Indiana Pacers, Norm Sonju of the Dallas Mavericks and Charlie Thomas of the Houston Rockets.

Miami, Orlando and Minneapolis reportedly are the front-runners in the race to land a franchise. Miami already has its nickname of "Heat" chosen, has started construction on a 15,000-seat arena and has down payments on about 8,000 season tickets.

Orlando has picked the nickname "Magic," has down payments on about 14,000 season tickets and is ready to break ground for a 16,000-seat facility. Minneapolis hopes to have an 18,000-seat downtown arena built in two years while its team plays in the Met Center.

Harvey Ratner and Marvin Wolfenson, the two Minnesota businessmen behind the Minneapolis group, once owned about three percent of the

Minneapolis Lakers from 1957-60 before the NBA club moved to Los Angeles.

Miami and Minneapolis both had teams in the old American Basketball Association, as did Anaheim.

Nick Mileti, who owned the NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers from 1970-80, heads the Orange County group that hopes to build a 20,000-seat Westdome Arena in Anaheim.

But league officials said they are hesitant to add a third NBA team to the southern California area with the Los Angeles Lakers and Los Angeles Clippers already there.

The Toronto Huskies hosted Canada's first NBA game in 1946, but its franchise folded after the 1946-47 season and some NBA officials are skeptical about competing again against hockey, Canada's national sport.

Charlotte once hosted some games by the ABA's Carolina Cougars, who eventually moved to Denver and became the NBA's Nuggets. But with a population of about 300,000, Charlotte is the smallest of the six cities to apply for a franchise.

Stern said the expansion committee will examine each city's strength of ownership, playing facilities, population growth, market area and projected fan support.

He said no price tag for an expansion team or player allocation was discussed.

The NBA also announced that it unanimously voted yesterday to give Stern a three-year contract extension through July 1990.

Booters rally to defeat Blue Hens in 3-1 contest

By CHRISTINE BORN
Collegian Sports Writer

Head Coach Walter Bahr's strategy for last night's soccer game with Delaware was to score early and put pressure on the Blue Hens. Although his strategy did not work, as Delaware took the early lead, the Lions recovered and scored a 3-1 win over the Blue Hens at Jeffrey Field.

Penn State is now 8-4 and Delaware drops to 5-8.

Although the Lions dominated play for three quarters of the game by taking 11 corner kicks to the Blue Hens' zero and making 28 shots on goal to 13 for Delaware, Bahr was not happy with the way Penn State played.

"I thought we had a flat game," he said. "The first 20 minutes we had some good scoring opportunities to put the ball in the net, but again I wasn't pleased with the performance. We were doing everything after the fact, we were moving after the play rather than before the play. There are always games where you're a day late and a dollar short."

"We were playing afterthought soccer. After the opening is there, then someone decides to go for it. After someone had the ball, then someone decides to tighten up on defense. We didn't anticipate well and we didn't make things happen."

Assistant Coach Barry Gorman agreed the Lions played poorly, especially after recent games.

"Compared to the way we played on Saturday night against Hartwick, you would have thought there were different people out there," he said.



Penn State's Niall Harrison, left, charges a Delaware defender in the second half of last night's game at Jeffrey Field. The Lions were able to overcome an early 1-0 deficit to defeat the Blue Hens, 3-1. The win, Penn State's third straight, keeps the team's post-season hopes alive.

behind or on his right. He was the last player on that side and I shouldn't have let it happen because he was wide open."

The Lions tied the game with 19 seconds remaining in the half on Jan Skorpen's 14th goal of the season. Penn State knocked a corner kick across the front of the net and Jay Ruby fed a pass to Skorpen who booted it in.

Penn State took the lead for good at about eight minutes into the second half. Ruby scored an unassisted goal from about 20 yards out, drilling it "It was not a good goal," the junior said. "I should have had a player marking that guy from

After 3 wins, the Lions' magic number is five

By STACEY JACOBSON
Collegian Sports Writer

As the soccer season slowly winds down, three seems to be the key number for the Lions.

The team is coming off a mid-season slump which consisted of three losses and three ties. But, the pendulum is now swinging in the other direction as the Lions have chalked up three consecutive wins including last night's 3-1 victory over the Delaware Blue Hens.

Still, the magic number for Penn State is five. Five games remain on the Lions' schedule and all five contests are must-win situations for the Lions if they have any hope of getting a bid to the NCAA tournament.

Earning five consecutive wins will be no easy task especially when considering Penn State's remaining opponents — Notre Dame, University of Connecticut, Temple, East Stroudsburg and Cleveland State.

The Lions' record is now 8-4-4 and even if they finish the season with a winning record, failure to earn a bid will be a blow to the program.

"We have a pretty strong tradition as far as getting into the playoffs here at Penn State," senior Jay Ruby said. "Getting a bid in the playoffs keeps the program going which is good for recruits practice more interesting, more intense."

The game was marred by another controversial call when George Kline received a red card with 13 minutes remaining in the game for a handball. The senior from Chatham Township, N.J., is now lost to the Lions for Friday's game with Notre Dame.

"Everybody likes challenges."

— John Pascarella, goalie

Neither coach was satisfied with last night's performance claiming the team looked flat in comparison to last Saturday's match against Hartwick.

"I think an NCAA bid is important, it's what every team shoots for in the regular season," Barry Gorman said. "Right now we can't even think that far in advance we have to take each game as it comes. There is not going to be another four games if we don't win the next one as far as post-season play."

The players have gained momentum since their winning streak began against Bucknell. Their playing pattern has remained the same — precise some games and sluggish in others — but they seem to view their current situation as a challenge.

"Everybody likes challenges," goalie John Pascarella said. "It gets you motivated a little bit more. It makes practice more interesting, more intense."

The Lions are taking the element of pressure and using it to work for them in the form of motivation.

"You have pressure whatever you do, but it's making us more motivated," freshman Peter Daigle said.

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