Boston

Continued from Page 13. errors in five games, the most ever in a League Championship Series.

And as if that wasn't bad enough, Boston looked lost at the plate whenever they needed a hit most. Only when Roger Clemens pitched did Boston look keen at the plate, about the Yankees seems with their heads down while driving through the ball.

When Orlando "El Duque" Hernandez and Andy Pettitte were on the hill, the Sox looked as lost as a defense lawyer on an ethics council. It was that bad.

So now that the Yanks have once again sent Boston home to eat beans, the Bronx Bombers can get psyched for yet another trip to the World Series. And regardless of which squad comes out of the National League, the Yanks will win four more games this season. Even when Clemens pitched like a high school second-stringer in front of his ex-hometown crowd, the Yankees had an air of invincibility.

In a press conference following the ALCS, Yankees manager Joe Torre said winning in the postseason this year was much harder for his team than it was last year. He said he thought opposing teams believed they had no shot against New York last year, but that has changed now.

Think about that - here's a manager saying it was much harder to win this time

around just after his team beat the opposition four out of five games. Talk about high standards.

Maybe it's the deep pockets of owner George Steinbrenner, the wizardry of Torre or the masterful pitching staff, but something unbeatable.

It was foolish to pick Boston, and I'll be the first to admit that. But the same mistake won't be made here twice. Betting against the Yanks in the World Series is like speeding past a police station — you just don't do it.

Every jab by the Yanks at the stomach of Boston stung more and more as the series went on, and watching the inevitable demise of the Sox undoubtedly was frustrating for the Boston faithful.

When New York basically sealed Boston's tate in Game Four, fanatus in Fenway Park from a overything but bats and trasebalis at the Yanks on the field.

Under standabte anger? Yes tractely poor taste?

Whatever the case may be, expect pet whicher team to come away with a nasty taste. in its mouth after facing the New York Yankees.

Joshua Wheet Miller tirnila opsicadu, is a junior months o horada Colleged on the enterprise writer the commappears

Report Card -

Continued from Page 13. rushing for 211 yards against Ohio State.

"It's like we're picking up where we left off last year against Michigan State." OVERALL GRADE: C

Linebackers

Against Ohio State, Linebacker U. was proven to be more than three players deep. Linebacker Ron Graham led the Lions in tackles in their win against the Buckeyes. And he did it coming off the bench.

Replacing the injuried Mac Morrison, who suffered a concussion in the first half and did not return because of precautionary measures, Graham had two sacks and recorded a career-high nine tackles. Regular starters LaVar Arrington and

Brandon Short each contributed in holding Buckeyes tailback Michael Wiley to just 18 yards rushing and further increased their growing legacy.

"When I am 72 years old all my tackles will be remebered as leaps across the line, all my runs will be touchdowns," Arrington said. "When I am 72, I'll be just an old man, but I'll be a trash-talking old man."

OVERALL GRADE: B

Defensive Line Through graduation, injuries and dark of night, the Lions defensive line has found a way to be the most consistent unit on its side of the ball.

Without saying a word, defensive end Courtney Brown is in hot prusuit of the Penn State all-time sack mark held by Larry Kubin. Heading into Purdue this weekend, Brown is just a sack and a half off that pace.

On the other end, Justin Kurpeikis is 22 sacks off of Kubin's mark, but has still has filled in nicely for graduate Brad Scioli.

In the middle, Jimmy Kennedy has become a dominant figure along the line in the place of the injuried Jason Wallace. Next to "The Grizzly Bear" Kennedy, the move of Bob Jones back to tackle from

defensive end has added to the Lions' depth, especially with usual-starter David Fleischhauer being bothered by nagging injuires recently.

OVERALL GRADE: A-

Secondary

Cornerbacks David Macklin and Anthony King, thought to be one of the better pairs of corners in the country heading into this season, have lived up to that lofty standard.

Against Ohio State, the two seniors locked up Buckeyes wideouts Reggie Germany and Ken-Yon Rambo like they were guilty of accepting more than \$400 worth of merchandise for \$21.40.

Bwawoh Jue has been excellent providing extra pass coverage, often times playing corner and allowing the coaching staff to maneuver King all over the place. **OVERALL GRADE: A**

Special teams

Up-and-down doesn't begin to describe this group's performance through the first

seven contests. Placekicker Travis Forney nailed his first seven field goal attempts and drilled 24 of

24 extra point tries. But the junior chunked his first miss of the season against Iowa, then had two field goals blocked against Ohio State a week ago.

Aside from the first block of his Penn State career, punter Pat Pidgeon has been as consistent as any Lions player. The senior booter has dropped nine punts inside the 20-yard line to go with his 41.8-

Kenny Watson has had his moments on kickoff returns, but lost his punt return duties after a fumble flood.

yard average, which ranks fifth in the Big

Teammate Bruce Branch took over in his place and promptly carted a boot 90 yards against Indiana for a touchdown. He has held the position since then.

OVERALL GRADE: B-

Eagles' Douglas needs surgery on torn biceps

By KEN BERGER Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA — Philadelphia Eagles defensive end Hugh Douglas needs surgery on his torn biceps and could be out for the year.

Douglas, who led the team with 12.5 sacks last season, will have surgery today, agent Drew Rosenhaus said.

The Eagles did not remove Douglas from the 53-man roster and would not give any details about the operation Douglas will undergo. Coach Andy Reid said Mon-

day that Douglas would be out for the year if he needed surgery.

Reid was not available yesterday, the team's day off.

"There's a strong chance he's going to need surgery on that," Reid said at his weekly press briefing. "If he does, he'll be out for the year."

Douglas ruptured his left biceps as he fought off a blocker while chasing Bears running back Curtis Enis in the Eagles' 20-16 victory over Chicago on Sunday.

Rosenhaus held out hope that Douglas could return this season, but the Eagles (2-4) would have to keep him on the active roster.

New England linebacker Ted Johnson had the same injury in this year's preseason and was not placed on the injured reserve list. Instead, the Patri-

"If that was up to Hugh, I'm certain he would want to come back and contribute."

 Drew Rosenhaus Douglas' agent on

Douglas' return to play

ots said he'd be out four months.

"If that was up to Hugh, I'm certain he would want to come back and contribute," Rosenhaus said. "We do know he's a fast healer."

Douglas just came back from a partially torn knee ligament in two weeks after doctors expect-

ed him to miss six weeks. Losing him again is a huge blow to the Eagles' defense,

which leads the NFL with 17 forced turnovers. "It's very frustrating, because I only got to play about two games and then this hap-

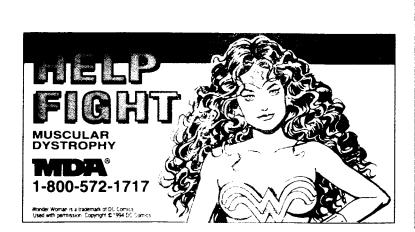
pens," defensive erd Douglas said, who does not want to play at less than full strength. "I'm not the biggest defensive lineman to begin with. To play at half my strength, that wouldn't be good."

The Eagles are prepared to go with a rotation including Mike Mamula, Brandon Whiting and Ike Reese to replace Dou-

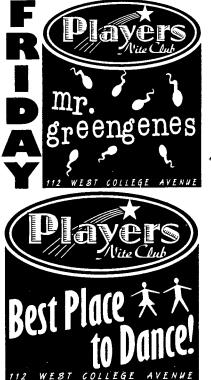




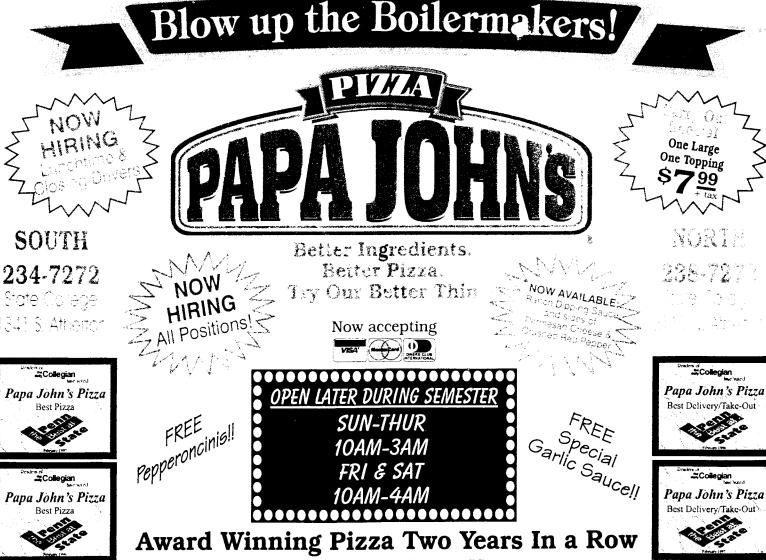
















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