

Phillies take Game 5, send series back East

By Janie McCauley
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO — Doc got the best of The Freak this time in a rematch of aces.

Roy Halladay pitched through a groin pull, outdueling Tim Lincecum and keeping the Philadelphia Phillies alive in the NL championship series with a 4-2 victory over the San Francisco Giants on Thursday night.

Jayson Werth's solo homer in the ninth quieted the raucous sell-out crowd of 43,713, and many fans began making for the exits even before Philadelphia pulled within 3-2 in the best-of-seven series.

Halladay's bunt — which appeared to be foul — helped spark a three-run third inning, when Shane Victorino drove in the

first of two runs that scored on a fielding error by first baseman Aubrey Huff. Placido Polanco followed with an RBI single, and the two-time reigning NL champions forced a Game 6 back home in Citizens Bank Park on Saturday and another cross-country trip.

Jonathan Sanchez starts for the Giants against Roy Oswalt, who is 10-0 in 12 starts at Philadelphia this year.

Philadelphia put San Francisco's celebration on hold. The Giants now must win once in two tries at Philly for the franchise's fourth pennant since moving West in 1958. San Francisco has not been to the World Series since the Giants' Barry Bonds-led team lost Game 7 to the Angels in 2002.

After Ryan Madson struck out

the Giants 4-5-6 hitters in the eighth, Brad Lidge finished things off for the Phillies with a 1-2-3 ninth for his second save of the postseason.

Philadelphia will try to become the 12th team to rally from a 3-1 deficit in a best-of-seven series. The Red Sox were the last to do it in the 2007 ALCS against Cleveland.

The Giants put the possible tying run in scoring position in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings but couldn't capitalize, losing in a potential postseason clincher at home for the first time since Game 7 of the 1962 World Series against the New York Yankees.

In a series dominated by pitching, the Phillies are hitting just .209 and the Giants .220.

Little has separated the teams,

despite trailing in the series, Philadelphia has outscored San Francisco 18-16.

Halladay hardly had no-hit stuff, but he had his edge. In a matchup of Cy Young Award winners won by Lincecum in the opener, Halladay stared down Pat Burrell after a called third strike to end the first, and Burrell jawed at Halladay while sprinkling in profanities. Clearly fuming in the dugout afterward, Halladay returned to the mound seemingly unfazed by that moment or a steady drizzle that hit during parts of the later innings.

Halladay kept dealing, even if he wasn't his most dazzling.

Lincecum, the two-time reigning NL Cy Young Award winner, beat Halladay five days earlier.

He was 2-0 so far this postsea-

son and pitched another solid game except for one rough inning, but the offense failed to back him.

Halladay labored at times and threw 108 pitches in six innings, far from the control and dominance he exhibited in tossing only the second no-hitter in postseason history Oct. 6 to start off the Phillies' division series sweep against the Cincinnati Reds.

Halladay hurt his groin in the second inning, according to Phillies manager Charlie Manuel. Still, Halladay allowed two runs and six hits, struck out five and walked two — including a free pass to leadoff man Andres Torres in the first that led to a run on Buster Posey's RBI groundout. The defense behind him even had a few bobbles Thursday but came through.

Hughes aims to rebound, keep Yanks alive in Game 6

By Jaime Aron
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARLINGTON, Texas — Phil Hughes watched from the bullpen as CC Sabathia bounced back from an awful first start in the AL championship series and kept alive the Yankees' hopes of repeating as World Series champs.

Now it's his turn.

Hughes will start Game 6 on Friday night against the Texas Rangers at their place, where'd been terrific until getting crushed in Game 2.

He's thrilled to get a second chance with even higher stakes. The Yankees must win to force a decisive Game 7.

"I didn't want my season to end

on that last start," he said Thursday.

The Yankees trail 3-2 in the best-of-7 series, which means they're facing elimination. Hughes certainly doesn't want what's been a breakout season to end because of him, especially since he was on the mound for New York's first loss this series.

The big right-hander gave up seven runs, 10 hits and three walks in four innings.

He allowed 13 baserunners while getting 12 outs.

"It was just being very predictable and throwing a lot of fastballs in hitter's counts that were mistakes, is what it boils down to," he said. "I have to do a better job of that, and I'm confident that I will."

He usually does. Only once all season did the Yankees lose back-

to-back games that he started, and he started 29 games in the regular season. He won 18 and was an All-Star.

The Game 2 meltdown was out of character.

Hughes hadn't allowed that many runs all season. It matched his most hits allowed and was his second-shortest.

"I expect him to have much better command of all of his stuff," manager Joe Girardi said.

The Rangers are expecting something different, too.

"He's going to make adjustments, I'm sure," said outfielder David Murphy, who had a homer and a double in two at-bats against Hughes that game.

"We just have to adjust right back."

Yankees captain Derek Jeter

said he's counting on Hughes pitching more like he did against Minnesota in the division series, when he threw seven scoreless innings — allowing just four hits and a walk — in his first postseason start.

"Everyone is going to have rough outings every once in a while," Jeter said. "We have a lot of confidence in him. He has confidence in himself. But we have to give him some support. Hopefully we do that early."

Hughes said he had as much adrenaline or more in Game 2 as he did against the Twins. If that wasn't the problem, then maybe it was inactivity.

He'd gone seven days between starts and another week before his previous outing.

"Now that I'm on more of a reg-

ular routine, it can only help," he said.

Another theory is that his arm could be getting tired. The 24-year-old already thrown the most innings of his pro career, more than double his most in the majors.

"I certainly haven't noticed any wear or fatigue or anything like that," he said.

"Coming into the season, I wasn't sure how my body was going to react to throwing that many innings. To be perfectly honest with you, I feel great and when you come out and you have the adrenaline of a big playoff game like these are, any little aches and pains or whatever you have go away. ... It's just about calming those nerves and executing pitches."

Brothers

From Page 8.

within the school, academic-wise and soccer-wise. It absolutely could not have been better. That's a moment parents become proud."

Despite playing together at home every day, this season is only the brothers' second time on a team together.

At Lower Dauphin, Andy and Daniel shared the field for one season for the Falcons, and always practiced with each others' club teams.

Daniel would practice with Andy's club, earning valuable

skills competing with players with more experience than he had.

And Andy would go and train his brother's team whenever he could, offering advice and tips to younger players.

Finally getting the opportunity to share the same field again, the brothers love the experiences they've had playing together for Penn State.

"We always look to each other for guidance," Daniel Parr said. "I know he's always gonna tell me what I need to do and I just listen to him. We're always gonna have each others' backs."

Andy's guidance to his younger brother has been invaluable so far this season.

After playing in nine games for Rutgers last season and finishing tied for fourth in points, Daniel Parr has appeared in only three games for the Lions this season.

"He wants to get more time," senior co-captain Drew Cost said. "But he's working hard and staying positive which is all you can ask for."

Though he's seen limited playing time this season, Daniel Parr has had one guy on the team in particular who's mentored him in dealing with watching the game from the sidelines — his brother.

A part of the Lions' opening day starting lineup, Andy Parr was taken off the Lions' starting defensive four since Penn State's game

against Binghamton on Sept. 12, and remained a substitute for five games.

Working hard every day in practice and making the most of his opportunities, Andy Parr earned his starting spot back when the Lions played Villanova on Oct. 6.

"He leads by example," Daniel said of his older brother. "He hasn't necessarily played every game this year or started, but he's been working his ass off at practice and raises up the level when he's on the bench and on the field."

Seeing his older brother work to earn his spot on the field and do what he can off the field has shown Daniel what he can do to be a contributing member of the team.

Warming has seen the relationship and common bond the two brothers have formed over the course of the season.

Watching the two of them lean on each other throughout the year has been beyond beneficial for the team, as well as each other.

"He handled everything the right way," Warming said of the elder Parr. "His relationship with his teammates, how hard he works every day in practice, everything. And I think especially when your mentor can be your older brother as a role model, it's terrific. It's really something special."

To e-mail reporter: mas5860@psu.edu

Seniors

From Page 8.

Coach Char Morett said if there was one word that describes this class, it would be "pride."

Morett said Purvis is a steady voice on the team and has a work ethic that is an example to younger players. The coach said Zug leads by example and the captain proved it by transitioning to a defensive position for the first time this year.

Morett said the pride each player has in their playing ability lets them all adjust to their own roles

ones they may not have preferred, but ones that put the team first.

"It's our last year and I know

everyone wants our season to end well, but even more for us because we want to end on a high note," Purvis said. "We want to end with everyone happy and feeling accomplished and that we worked hard for the best results we could."

Standing with a 10-4 record (3-2 Big Ten) the No. 11 Lions have a keen eye on the Big Ten championships in two weeks. However, in the scenario they don't win the conference, the team sees this weekend as an anchor to hold them in the national picture, with or without a title.

With 16 teams picked to enter the NCAA Tournament, eight teams find themselves with automatic bids. For this Penn State team, which sits in fourth place in

the Big Ten, quality nonconference wins will be crucial down the stretch.

This weekend is the opportunity.

Morett said the team can't let up at all in either contest and every player needs to go hard for 70 minutes in each game. The coach said that the focus has been on fundamentals — playing fast, passing fast and making fast decisions.

Zug says a key to getting a tournament bid is the team needs to prove it can be a steady presence every time it walks on the field.

"We want to be a consistent team and to be that we have to consistently beat good teams," said the captain.

"We've lost to some good oppo-

nents and the two games coming up are good opponents and if we could knock them down it would likely solidify a spot in the tournament."

With the thought of postseason play on the line, Purvis said the team doesn't talk about where it can be in the future, only on the task at hand.

The forward emphasized everyone knows the bigger goal, so it's not in the team's nature to bring it up.

Both Purvis and Zug agree that this weekend can be used as a platform leading into their upcoming road games.

As far as the weekend is concerned, Purvis said the team is very vocal about what they are up against.

She said there is no better way to go into a tournament than to play tournament-level competition.

"These are both top-20 ranked teams so being able to get two wins out of this weekend would be huge," Purvis said.

"These are the types of teams we would play going into the NCAAs."

Zug said the team is using the week's practice to sharpen up and work on their chemistry.

"We need to be a team threat," Zug said. "Each one of us are individually threatening to our opponent, but I think being a team threat is a goal that will definitely get us wins."

To e-mail reporter: zsf5003@psu.edu

N'Western

From Page 8.

out to a 5-1 conference record after three weeks of conference matches.

"I would say there's no question that they're a surprise," Rose said Tuesday before practice.

"Certainly, after three weeks to have them sitting on top of the conference was just a great effort by their kids and their coaching staff."

After two losses on the road last weekend dropped their conference record to 5-3, the Wildcats hope to get back on track at home tonight against Ohio State, before taking on the Lions.

Despite their struggles historically, Northwestern coach Keylor Chan said his team isn't focusing on wins and losses.

Though winning is always a goal for his team, Chan said the Wildcats don't talk about their record.

"It's a tough conference, and we've been a program that's been trying to build and get to where Penn State is at right now," Chan said.

"If you play good volleyball, you'll get what you earn. I think that's something we've talked about more than winning and losing."

Northwestern has been playing well, led by senior middle hitter Sabel Moffett.

Rose said Moffett is a player who has troubled Penn State in the past.

This season, she's providing a

"I would say there's no question that [Northwestern is] a surprise."

Russ Rose

women's volleyball coach

double-threat in the middle with fellow middle hitter Naomi Johnson.

Each has a .344 hitting percentage, and they've combined for 426 kills.

Chan said with the strength of Big Ten teams, every win in the conference is rewarding. However, he said a win against the Lions "would be great." He called Penn State the top dog, and Chan believes the Lions will give Northwestern all it can handle.

After a midweek victory against Ohio State Wednesday, the Lions had Thursday and today to focus on preparing for Northwestern.

Penn State was pleased with its play on the road against the Buckeyes and hopes it can repeat that performance on Saturday night.

Sophomore setter Kristin Carpenter said if the Lions play like they did against Ohio State, they will be in a good position to win.

"They're playing very well this year," Carpenter said of Northwestern.

"We have to pick it up again. If we keep our heads on straight, I think we'll be OK."

To e-mail reporter: rml5138@psu.edu

Icers

From Page 8.

convincing two-goal win on Saturday.

Despite already having two losses, junior forward Paul Daley is not convinced the Bobcats' record represents their play. Daley said two losses are a lot for the Bobcats to have in a season, let alone throughout the first six games. Daley is expecting a hard-fought contest Friday night.

To prepare for the Bobcats, the Icers have been working on sharpening their systems. Captain Marek Polidor thinks special teams may become the key factor that separates the two evenly-matched teams.

Win

From Page 8.

receiving votes in the latest AVCA Coaches Poll, Wednesday night in front of more than 2,200 fans at St. John Arena in Columbus, Ohio.

"It totally could be [a turning point in the season]," sophomore setter Kristin Carpenter said after Wednesday night's match, before slightly altering her answer. "It better be. It is our turning point. We're coming on from here on out. It's going to be a different Penn State team."

Earlier this week, senior libero and co-captain Alyssa D'Errico said Penn State's mental approach leading up to matches was too laid back.

D'Errico said the win against

"When you have two teams that are as good as each other, most of the time the difference is executing the power play," the junior forward said. "We've studied their special teams and it could be the difference in winning or losing a game."

If this holds true, the Icers may have a solid advantage over their opponent. Throughout the course of the season, the Icers have converted five goals on 19 power play chances and have killed the man-advantage 92 percent of the time.

Polidor credits the success to his teammates' thriving in these situations. He also said the team is loaded with skill players and they continue to practice the penalty kill every week.

Between the pipes, Hume said

he must be in total control the entire game. He said his responsibilities include controlling the pace of the game, and handling rebounds.

For some of the Icers, it's tough to look at the ACHA rankings and see the Bobcats ahead of them.

Polidor said this is the first time he remembers Ohio being ranked above his squad. He said his team would try and send a message this weekend by coming out hard from the start.

Hume, on the other hand, has his eyes set on something else. "They deserve the ranking," Hume said. "But we feel we deserve it too and we are going to try and take it from them."

To e-mail reporter: gfg5044@psu.edu

the Buckeyes (16-6, 4-5) could be a turning point, but added the Lions have had multiple points in their season they say should swing the momentum. However, D'Errico said Wednesday night's performance was a step in the right direction.

"It's just a match-to-match approach," D'Errico said. "I don't think we can say from here on out we're going to win every match. We just have to approach every match like it's an important one and maintain our focus throughout."

After returning to campus late Wednesday night, the Lions' stay in Happy Valley will be short-lived. Penn State leaves today to take on No. 22 Northwestern (15-4, 5-3) in Evanston, Ill. on Saturday.

The Wildcats have been one of

the surprise teams in the Big Ten this season, and as of this morning, sit a half game behind the Lions in the conference standings. Northwestern hosts Ohio State tonight before welcoming Penn State.

On the other hand, because of the mid-week bout, Penn State has its first match-less Friday night of the season, giving them more time to focus on Northwestern.

"I would have to say 100 percent [the Ohio State] match gave us confidence," Carpenter said. "We have two days that we get to focus just on one team. And of course we focus on what we need to work on, but it also gives us time to focus on Northwestern as well."

To e-mail reporter: jtk5142@psu.edu