

Giants take Game 1

By Ben Walker
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The San Francisco Giants turned the World Series opener into an extra-long round of batting practice

MLB

Freddy Sanchez sprayed balls down the lines. Cody Ross and Aubrey Huff hit line drives up the middle. Juan Uribe launched a shot far, far over the wall.

Soccer

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the ref and delaying the game on a free kick.

Braga's goal was his second in the last two games and broke a five-game shutout run held by Penn and the senior said the way the ball traveled through the air helped it go in.

"The ball was going up then it came down really quick and it confused the keeper a little bit," Braga said.

Penn State goalkeeper Brendan Birmingham used his 6-foot-5 frame and came up with several late saves that prevented the Quakers from re-tying the game. Warming said Birmingham struggled with his kicking game, but the coach added in the end, a keeper's main job is to keep the ball out of the net, which Birmingham did.

After one half, the Lions led the shot margin 7-4, but the Quakers had the only attempt on net. Penn State didn't get its first shot on net

three doubles and keying a six-run burst in an 11-7 romp Wednesday night that looked even more lopsided.

What shaped up as a pitchers' duel between Tim Lincecum and Lee quickly deteriorated into a rout. By the end, the Rangers played like the World Series rookies they are — they made four errors. Ian Kinsler took a mistake en route around first base and manager Ron Washington may have waited too late to pull Lincecum.

San Francisco

Texas

Volleyball

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represent our country at these World Championships."

A Durham, N.C., native, Hodge was named the 2009 co-Honda Broderick Cup Award winner for the best female collegiate athlete in all sports. The 6-foot-3 outside hitter finished her tenure in Happy Valley with 2,142 kills and helped her team to a 142-5 record over four All-American seasons.

Glass, who hails from Leland, Mich., is one of the best setters in Nittany Lion history and finished her career fourth in school history with 5,799 assists.

Held every four years, the championship, which begins Friday and ends Nov. 14, is set to take place across five Japanese cities. Twenty-four teams are split into four pools with the top team from each pool advancing to the second round. The U.S.,

"I think it's great that [Hodge and Glass] are in the position they're in. They get a chance to represent their country."

Russ Rose

women's volleyball coach

which is the No. 2 seed in the tournament behind Brazil, starts in Pool C and will match up against Cuba, Germany, Kazakhstan, Thailand and Croatia with all of its first-round matches in Matsuyama, Japan.

"I think that it's great that [Hodge and Glass] are in the position that they're in," Penn State coach Russ Rose said. "They get a chance to represent their country in the world championships."

Hodge and Glass were also on the 14-player U.S. roster that won the FIVB World Grand Prix in August.

Former Penn State outside hit-

ter Nicole Fawcett, whose senior season was in 2008, was also on that team, but did not make the roster for the upcoming championship.

Christa Harmotto, a former Penn State middle hitter graduated the same year as Fawcett, has also been involved with the national team but did not make the final cut.

"You're excited about the fact that two of your players made the final trip," Rose said, "but you feel for the two of your players that didn't get so lucky to go on the trip, as well."

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Icers

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tion. "We focused on more of the guys individually than just the team. We wanted to work on the mental approach because we thought it was something that was lacking last weekend."

Harmotto has put his players through certain drills hoping to improve their physicality back on the ice.

The Icers have been expanding their 1-on-1 battles, emphasizing not to give up and emphasizing the intensity when pushed to the limit.

The Flames are a familiar foe to the Icers. The two teams met in both the 2008 and 2009 ACHA National Championship quarterfinals, with each team notching a victory.

Harmotto remembers those games and will not take the matchup lightly come tonight.

"All week we have been preaching the same things. If we show up mentally prepared, we shouldn't have a problem [tonight] or Friday."

Tim O'Brien

Icers' forward

"They're not my opponent," O'Brien said. "They've just liked us in the past years and we're expecting a tough physical game."

After last weekend's loss, some players still have a little taste in their mouths. Senior defenseman Carey Bell said he and his teammates were disappointed heading to the rink last night following their first loss. Bell's family is now residing in the hospital, is hoping his team can check and show some respect, but still has a lot of intensity.

Junior forward and captain Mark Pothier will lead the series

as a measuring stick for his team.

"Great teams are judged by their ability to bounce back after a bad weekend," Policer said. "The systems will take care of themselves, we have to come out mentally prepared and stay out of the penalty box."

O'Brien knows what his team is capable of and is expecting the Flames to shortly find out.

"All week we have been preaching the same things," he said.

"If we show up mentally prepared, we shouldn't have a problem [tonight] or Friday."

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Football

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Schilling's team once again enters a game against the Lions with a 5-2 record, but at 1-2 in the Big Ten, both teams need a win to help their bowl resumes. Though the Lions enter at 4-3 and hold the same 1-2 conference record, both teams are trying to get back on track.

"This year's game is kind of a test of who's trying to get back on top, and who's going to avoid a big loss," Michigan play-by-play announcer Frank Beckmann said. "The teams have kind of had similar seasons and the game means similar things for them."

The Wolverines have lost their last two games and are coming off a bye week where, much like Penn State did during its bye week two weeks ago, they returned to focusing on fundamentals.

Trying to get the players to regroup after losing to Michigan State and Iowa on Homecoming is a challenge Rich Rodriguez's group faces.

Much like the 5-2 start last season, the Wolverines are trying to

figure out the direction of the season. Both teams have to travel to Columbus to play Ohio State, but neither team can really afford to look that far ahead on the conference schedule.

"I don't even know who Michigan's record is," offensive back Evan Royster said.

"At this point everybody's trying to win every game and get to be bowl eligible, so I'm sure they'll have the same sense of urgency we have."

Michigan and Penn State usually enter the rivalry game with at least one team holding hopes of competing for the Big Ten title, but this year is an exception.

With both teams in the bottom half of the conference, Penn State right guard Stefan Wisniewski said he's aware of the WebCaster record but doesn't want to try and think of the game as the last chance for his team to salvage the season.

"If you look at it like that, you put a little added pressure on yourself," Wisniewski said. "I think that pressure can tend to make you make more mistakes."

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Colasanti

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Colasanti, while Forti tallied 11 sacks, played through a broken nose in his right hand that he wore as well as the week before.

Colasanti has remained outside the limelight, largely because of the Penn State defense's uncharacterized season.

Colasanti's quiet manner also helped the linebacker to stay in the program. He bid his time for a chance to claim a starting job without being redshirted or suffering a major injury.

"It keeps his head down," coach said.

He doesn't care if he gets the spotlight, team captain Colasanti said. "I'm going to play through the tangles and the hits."

The defense's second-half turnaround against Temple last fall led the senior and others,

"I've waited for three years for this opportunity. I just try to make plays."

Chris Colasanti

Penn State linebacker

tried to maintain his composure during fellow defensive players' big hit parade.

And after a long wait, Colasanti walked off the field with numbers around him that were a far cry from previous seasons. He finished with 11 sacks, 11 tackles and one interception. He finished on his right hand, the senior entrenched his right hand on the ground with his head still clanking. "It's just a pain and bowed his head in frustration."

Forti said the job he allowed suit in addition to wearing the sign of the Penn State defense stayed by the defense's addition of Colasanti.

"While he's been out of all the time, he's been a great leader," Rodriguez said. "I've waited for three years for this opportunity," Rodriguez said. "I just try to make plays."

Colasanti attributes Massaro and the defensive line as a reason why he leads the conference in tackles per game. He said the defensive line taking up blocks from opposing offensive linemen allows him to do his job without restraint.

"They'll need a joint effort this weekend when Michigan quarterback Denard Robinson, the nation's leading rusher, comes to town."

Colasanti, who said every defender must stick to his assignment in order to contain Robinson, hopes the defense will do the talking.

"I've waited three years for this opportunity," said Colasanti on playing this season. "I just try to make plays."

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Hoosiers

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Indiana enters the game mired in a tough season, sitting at 5-10-1 overall and just 1-6-0 in the Big Ten. What the Hoosiers have in their favor, though, is a 3-2 comeback win over Iowa last Sunday.

Tribbett said that win could give Indiana an extra burst of confidence going into tonight's game, and it's something the Lions need to be aware of.

While Indiana's record doesn't

look good on paper, Penn State coach Erica Walsh knows the Hoosiers do present a challenge.

"They've got a couple of good players up top. Both Corey Smith and the Colombian player [Orlando Velasquez] are both good finishing players," Walsh said. "I do think they've been a bit unlucky with a few of their points. I'm expecting a good side."

Aside from the forwards, Tribbett said Lara Ross, Indiana's left back, often gets involved in the attack and will be a player the defense has to watch out for.

Last year, Penn State's defense

had been in a tight, fighting out a 1-1 win, as midfielder Christine Nanni, with minute goal.

"We're going to be close, hard fought game, but the norm when both teams are in a fight."

"We're going to play us, they're going to play us, and give us a fight," Walsh said. "From past years we know that they are going to give us a fight, whether they're at the top of the Big Ten standings or not, and they're going to give us a fight. And we also know that we're going to play us."

Tribbett said she hadn't heard Indiana even as she was in the state and the Lions are simply focused on themselves right now. At the same time, the senior said her team's losses to Michigan last month have taught her a lesson and she doesn't look any opponent in the eye.

After the Illinois game, the Lions were busy preparing back to State College, Pa., for a return into town around the holiday. With an away game scheduled at Purdue Sunday, Tribbett and the coaches and trainers have done a good job getting the players rested. Monroig said she had a store may be some variation in the roster

over the next two games.


But tonight, the Lions can't worry about how tired they are. Instead they will be focused on getting a necessary win.

"We know it doesn't matter who we have beaten and who they have beaten, who we've lost to or who they've lost to, [tonight] Penn State and Indiana show up," Monroig said. "It's going to be whoever wants it more and whoever is really going to bring it and go at the other team and show that they want to win the game."


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Thursday (10/28) @ 7:00 PM vs. INDIANA
HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST



WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL
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HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST
FOLLOWING THE MATCH
Saturday (10/30) @ 5:00 PM vs. IOWA

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