



BOSTON RED SOX



SPRING TRAINING NOTES

Boston Red Sox (7-8-1) at New York Mets (5-10)
Thursday, March 15, 2007 • Tradition Field, Port St. Lucie, FL

NATIONAL LEAGUE INTRIGUE: The Red Sox play the 2nd of 4 straight games vs. National League teams this evening when they face the New York Mets at Tradition Field in Port St. Lucie...Boston has dropped 3 of 4 but has won 6 of 10 and 7 of its last 12 "A" games after starting the spring at 0-3-1...team is 3-5-1 at City of Palms Park and 4-3 on the road...the Red Sox tonight will make their lone "overnight" stay in Grapefruit League play this spring...the coaching staff and 9 players will spend the night on the East Coast before traveling to Vero Beach for a 1:05 p.m. game tomorrow with the Los Angeles Dodgers...the remainder of the squad will split time in the 2 games.

YESTERDAY'S NEWS: Boston yesterday dropped a 3-2 contest to the Pittsburgh Pirates at City of Palms Park...Kason Gabbard started and allowed just one hit with 3 strikeouts over 3.0 shutout innings...Mike Lowell put the Sox ahead with a 2-run homer off Zach Duke in the bottom of the 4th, his 2nd of the spring...Pittsburgh evened the score with 2 runs off Julian Tavaréz in the 5th and went ahead for good with a run off J.C. Romero in the 7th...Ian Snell earned the win with 3.0 shutout relief innings, fanning 4...Joel Pineiro and Hideki Okajima each worked a scoreless inning out of the pen for Boston.

VS. THE METS: Tonight marks the 2nd and final spring matchup between the Red Sox and Mets...Ed Rogers cracked a walk-off grand slam off Ambiorix Burgos to give the Sox a 9-5 win in the clubs' first meeting on March 7 at City of Palms Park...Boston swept a 3-game set in the lone 2006 regular season series between the 2 teams, June 27-29 at Fenway Park...the Red Sox are 11-7 against the Mets since interleague play began in 1997...they will not face each other in the 2007 regular season.

AGAINST THE SENIOR CIRCUIT: The Red Sox are 3-3 vs. National League teams this spring, winning 3 of the last 4 games...Boston was 16-2 vs. the N.L. in 2006, tying Oakland in 2002 and Minnesota in 2006 for the most victories ever by a club in interleague play.

BATTING BITS: Boston has been held to a combined 2 runs and 10 hits in the last 2 games after hitting .326 (46-141) with 28 runs scored in its previous 4 games...Sox rank 10th among A.L. clubs with a .261 team batting average...club has just 9 homers in 16 games, tied for 5th-fewest in the A.L.

INDIVIDUAL BATTING NOTES: Alex Cora has hit safely in 7 of his last 8 "A" games at .375 (9-24)...J.D. Drew is 8-17 (.471) with 2 doubles, a triple, homer and 3 RBI in last 6 games...Mike Lowell is 5-9 (.556) with a homer, 3 RBI and 3 runs in his last 3 games to raise his average from .105 to .250...Joe McEwing is 3-8 (.375) in his last 5 games and is tied for 2nd in the A.L. with 8 runs scored...Dustin Pedroia is 4-10 (.400) in his last 3 contests...Manny Ramirez has reached base in 11 of 20 plate appearances in his last 7 games with 5 hits, 5 walks, and a hit by pitch with a sac fly...tops the A.L. with 9 walks and is tied for 4th with a .516 on-base percentage...Ed Rogers is 7-11 (.636) with a homer and 7 RBI in his last 8 games with an at-bat...Kevin Youkilis is 9-16 (.563) with 3 doubles in his last 6 games...is tied for the A.L. lead with 5 doubles and ranks 2nd among A.L. players with a .543 on-base percentage.

FROM THE ROTATION: The 5 projected starters in Boston's rotation, Josh Beckett, Daisuke Matsuzaka, Jonathan Papelbon, Curt Schilling, and Tim Wakefield have combined to post a 2.92 ERA (12 ER/37.0 IP) in "A" games this spring...that includes 3 starts for Schilling and Wakefield, 2 apiece for Beckett and Matsuzaka, and 2 relief appearances for Papelbon, who has been pitching on the same day as Wakefield to date...however, Beckett, Matsuzaka and Wakefield have compiled a 6.94 ERA (9 ER/11.2 IP) in their last 3 starts.

MORE PITCHING: Boston ranks 4th among A.L. clubs with a 4.03 ERA this spring...Sox' longest outing to date is 4.0 innings for Curt Schilling on March 8 at Minnesota, Daisuke Matsuzaka on Sunday vs. Baltimore and Tim Wakefield on Monday night vs. the Yankees...Bryan Corey had worked 7.0 scoreless innings this spring before issuing a run in his 2nd inning of work on Tuesday...Joel Pineiro has pitched 5 scoreless innings in his last 4 games...Craig Breslow has pitched 3 scoreless innings in his 3 "A" appearances.

RECENT SPRING NEWS

PITCHING UPDATES: RHP Mike Timlin was shut down for approximately a week on March 9 as he continues to feel discomfort from a strained oblique muscle...Timlin originally felt the discomfort while throwing his 1st live BP in February...Threw about 40 pitches in a live BP session on March 7 but felt discomfort.

LHP Jon Lester will make his next appearance in a minor league game tomorrow, pitching for Triple-A Pawtucket vs. Minnesota's Rochester club at the minor league camp.

RHP Tim Wakefield will make his next start in a minor league camp game on Saturday, pitching for Lancaster vs. Minnesota's Ft. Myers club at the minor league camp.

RHP Curt Schilling threw 81 pitches/56 strikes in a simulated game vs. Red Sox minor league hitters on Tuesday night at City of Palms Park...pitched 5 innings and allowed 3 hits and 2 runs...will make his next start in a minor league game on Sunday for Pawtucket vs. Cincinnati's Louisville club at the minor league complex.

THE SPRING TRAINING ROSTER is currently at 47 players, including 11 non-roster invitees...The breakdown: 24 pitchers (4 non-roster); 5 catchers (2 non-roster); 11 infielders (11 non-roster); and 7 outfielders (1 non-roster).

EVERYONE GETTING IN ON THE ACTION: 64 different players have seen action in at least one of Boston's first 14 Grapefruit League games (37 position players and 27 pitchers).

RECORD ATTENDANCE: The Red Sox-Dodgers game on March 5 established a new single-game City of Palms Park attendance record of 8,249...the Red Sox have sold out 56 consecutive official Grapefruit League (non-college or exhibition) contests at City of Palms Park since March 16, 2003.

SPRING SHORTS: Each of Boston's last 8 games have been decided by 2 runs or less, with the Sox going 4-4 in those contests...the Sox are 3-4 in one-run games and 1-1 in 2-run games this spring...Boston's minor league clubs begin spring games tomorrow with 5 games vs. Minnesota's minor league teams.

MASS. LOTTERY TO RELEASE \$10 RED SOX INSTANT TICKET: State Treasurer Tim Cahill today joined Red Sox President and CEO Larry Lucchino at Fenway Park to announce the new \$10 game which will go on sale beginning Tuesday, March 20 at the Lottery's 7,500 licensed retailers throughout the state...the *\$10 Red Sox Instant Ticket* features a mixture of attractive cash prizes, and opportunities to instantly win one-of-a-kind Red Sox ticket/game experiences and unmatched team merchandise.

TOMORROW'S REGULARS: Regulars making the trip to Vero Beach tomorrow with Daisuke Matsuzaka starting: Coco Crisp, J.D. Drew, Dustin Pedroia, Jason Varitek, and Kevin Youkilis.

TRAVEL SQUAD

PITCHERS: 19 Josh Beckett, 40 Runelvys Hernandez, 48 Javier Lopez, 56 Craig Hansen, 59 Mike Burns, 63 Travis Hughes.

CATCHERS: 28 Doug Mirabelli, 46 Alberto Castillo, 72 George Kottaras.

INFIELDERS: 11 Joe McEwing, 13 Alex Cora, 23 Julio Lugo, 25 Mike Lowell, 34 David Ortiz, 71 Jeff Bailey, 76 Bobby Scales, 77 Ed Rogers, Alex Prieto, Scott White.

OUTFIELDERS: 3 Alex Ochoa, 24 Manny Ramirez, 60 David Murphy, 75 Brandon Moss, Bubba Bell, Jay Johnson.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE AND PROBABLE PITCHING MATCHUPS

DATE	TIME	OPP.	RED SOX PITCHERS	OPPOSING PITCHERS
Thu., March 15	7:10at	NYM	Josh Beckett, Javier Lopez, Craig Hansen	Oliver Perez, Billy Wagner, Scott Schoenweis
Fri., March 16	1:05	at LAD	Daisuke Matsuzaka, Hideki Okajima, Manny Delcarmen	Brad Penny, Hong-Chic Kuo, Eric Stults
Sat., March 17+	*1:05	CIN	Jonathan Papelbon, Brendan Donnelly, Joel Pineiro	TBA
Sun., March 18+	1:05	at BAL	Kason Gabbard	Daniel Cabrera

+NESN *WRKO Radio



2007 SPRING TRAINING RESULTS/SCHEDULE

Table with columns: DATE, OPPONENT, SITE, RESULT, RECORD, WINNER, LOSER, ATTENDANCE. Lists training games from Feb 28 to March 14.

Table with columns: DATE, OPPONENT, SITE, TIME, TV/Radio. Lists training games from March 15 to March 31.

(SS)—Split Squad Home Games at City of Palms Park, Fort Myers, Florida
TV—Game televised by NESN E—Game televised by ESPN R—Game broadcast by WRKO (680 AM)

ROSTER MOVES: The Red Sox made 5 roster moves on Monday to reduce their major league spring training roster to 47 players:
--Returned Rule 5 Draft selection, RHP Nick Debarr to the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.
--Optioned RHP Kyle Jackson to Double-A Portland of the Eastern League.
--Assigned 3 non-roster players, LHP Abe Alvarez, C Dusty Brown, and OF Kerry Robinson to the minor league camp.
Boston has 47 players remaining in major league camp, including 11 non-roster invitees...the breakdown: 24 pitchers (4 non-roster invitees), 5 catchers (2 non-roster invitees), 11 infielders (4 non-roster invitees) and 7 outfielders (1 non-roster invitee)...with Debarr's return to TB, Boston has 39 players on its major league roster.
Boston made its 1st roster moves of the spring on March 9:
--Optioned RHP Edgar Martinez and RHP David Pauley to Triple-A Pawtucket.
--Assigned 3 non-roster invitees, INFs Luis Jimenez and Chad Spann and OF Jacoby Ellsbury to minor league camp.
--Announced that non-roster RHP Adam Bernero has reported to minor league camp to begin his rehab after undergoing ligament reconstruction surgery on his right elbow on February 28.

TODAY'S RED SOX PITCHERS

19-JOSH BECKETT, RHP

1-0, 2.70 ERA, 2 "A" starts

2006 IN REVIEW: In his first Red Sox season, set career highs with 16 wins, 33 starts and 204.2 innings pitched, reaching 30 starts and eclipsing 200.0 innings for the first time in 5 major league campaigns...led the Red Sox in wins, starts and innings...ranked 4th in the American League with a .245 batting average against, tied for 6th in starts and tied for 8th in wins...his 36 home runs allowed were a career high and tied for 2nd-most in the the majors...his career-high 74 walks were 5th-most in the A.L.

Table with columns: DATE, OPP, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, BB, K. Shows performance for Josh Beckett on 3/1, 3/5, and 3/10.

CAREER NOTES: Including career highs of 16 wins, 33 starts and 204.2 innings pitched in 2006 - his first American League and Red Sox campaign - has matched or increased totals in each of those categories every season since breaking into the big leagues with the Marlins at the age of 21 in 2001...is tied for 8th in the majors with 31 wins over the last 2 seasons (Chris Carpenter and Jon Garland lead with 36 wins apiece)...has struck out 152 batters or more in each of the last 4 seasons, and is averaging 8.5 strikeouts per 9 innings in his big league career...has limited the opposition to a .239 batting average in his 5 full major league seasons (2002-06), 14th-best in the big leagues in that span (minimum 500 IP).

48-JAVIER LOPEZ, LHP

0-0, 1.59 ERA, 5 appearances

2006 IN REVIEW: Went 1-0 with one save and a 2.70 ERA in 27 relief appearances covering 4 stints with the Red Sox...began the year as a non-roster invitee to major league spring training with the Chicago White Sox and pitched exclusively for their Triple-A Charlotte affiliate before being acquired by the Red Sox on June 15...combined between Triple-A Charlotte and Pawtucket, went 3-1 with 16 saves (in 16 opportunities) and a 1.99 ERA in 39 outings.

Table with columns: DATE, OPP, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, BB, K. Shows performance for Javier Lopez on 3/1, 3/4, 3/7, 3/9, and 3/12.

CAREER NOTES: Is his 2nd stint in the Boston organization, as he was selected by the Red Sox in the 2002 Rule 5 Draft but traded to Colorado on March 18, 2003 for righthander Ryan Cameron...has also pitched in the majors for Colorado and Arizona...was originally selected by Arizona in the 4th round of the 1998 First-Year Player Draft.

56-CRAIG HANSEN, RHP

0-0, 9.00 ERA, 2 appearances

2006 IN REVIEW: Had 3 stints with Boston in 2006 (June 6-9; June 20-August 21; September 5-end of season), going 2-2 with 8 holds and a 6.63 ERA (28 ER/38.0 IP) in 38 relief appearances...allowed only 16.7 percent (3 of 18) of his inherited runners to score, tied with Jonathan Papelbon (4 of 24) for the best percentage on the team...in the minors, was 1-0 with a 0.82 ERA in 5 games at Double-A Portland and 1-2 with a 2.75 ERA in 14 games (4 starts) at Triple-A Pawtucket.

Table with columns: DATE, OPP, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, BB, K. Shows performance for Craig Hansen on 3/9 and 3/12.

CAREER NOTES: Begins 2007 as the No. 8 prospect in the Red Sox organization, according to Baseball America...is the No. 5 Red Sox pitching prospect...Less than 5 months removed from the campus of St. John's University, made his major league debut for the Red Sox in 2005, in the process becoming the first player in Red Sox history to reach the majors the year he was drafted.