

Dodgers, Royals Seek Clinchers Today

Phils Blame Umpire For Stunning Defeat

PHILADELPHIA (UPI) — A smile of Christian charity was on Manny Mota's face and that automatically assured the Los Angeles Dodgers everything was going to turn out all right, although there were two out and two strikes on their 39-year-old pinch-hitter in the top of the ninth inning.

"When he turned around and smiled the way he did, I knew he was going to hit one for us," said Dodger second baseman Davey Lopes, who was kneeling in the on-deck circle at the time with the Dodgers trailing the Phillies 5-3 in Friday's playoff contest.

"I've seen him do the same thing seven or eight times before," Lopes added. "Every time he does that, he comes through with a base hit. It's as if he's saying to me, 'I'm going to do my job, make sure you do yours.'"

Mota, the ageless Dominican who collected 14 pinch hits in 36 times up for a .389 average this season, did his job so spectacularly Friday that the Dodgers

are now within one game of winning the National League pennant.

Gene Garber, the Phillies' reliever, retired the first two Dodger batters easily enough leading off the ninth, after which pinch-hitter Vic Davalillo kept the Dodgers' hopes alive by beating out a drag bunt down the first base line.

"Grab a bat, Manny," Dodger Manager Tommy Lasorda said to Mota. "You're hitting."

That was the extent of Lasorda's instruction. He didn't have to say any more. Mota, with 20 years professional baseball experience behind him, knew what he had to do. Garber got his first pitch over for a strike and Mota swung at his second delivery, a slider on the inside, and missed for strike two.

That's when Mota turned around and smiled. Lopes saw that smile and so did all the players on the Dodgers' bench.

"I was just trying to tell them I was relaxed," explained Mota later. "I had tried to hit a home run on my second swing but now I knew I was going to have to protect the plate."

In came Garber's next pitch and out it went when Mota swung and drove it toward the left field fence. Greg Luzinski, the Phillies' left-fielder, threw himself up against the fence, trying to keep the ball from going over it and he did. The ball hit his glove, then the fence, then his chest and before he could get a handle on it, Davalillo had come all the way around with the Dodgers' third run and Mota, credited with a double, legged it all the way to third when Phillies' second baseman Ted Sizemore let the relay get past him.

Unquestionably it was Mota's dramatic pinch double which fueled the Dodgers' three-run rally that powered them to their 6-5 victory. Mota had done his job and now it was up to Lopes, who sent Mota across when he was safe at first on a close play after he beat out an infield hopper that bounced off the heel of third baseman Mike Schmidt's glove.

That tied the score at 5-5 and, after Lopes moved up on an error, Bill Russell singled home the winner.

Lasorda, who has put in 32 years in organized baseball, said he "never saw a finish like this one."

"I'm never too surprised at what Manny does for us," said the Dodger manager. "I've seen him do it so many times for us before."

Mota, already signed by the Dodgers for next year, when he'll be 40, credited Jim Gilliam, one of the Dodgers' coaches, with helping him come up with Friday's clutch hit.



DODGERS' DAVEY LOPES IS MOBBED BY TEAMMATES ...after scoring winning run in ninth inning

Calvert Has Tough Time With Clyde

Clyde gave unbeaten Tiffin Calvert all it wanted before dropping a 13-6 Sandusky Bay Conference decision Friday night.

The Fliers trailed by a scant one point until the last five minutes of the game against the Senecas who were impressive in knocking off their first four opponents with comparative ease.

Calvert scored in the third period on Tom Cool's six-yard run and Martin Van Iperen kicked the PAT.

The Fliers retaliated with 1:25 remaining in the quarter as Mike Colavincenzo hurled a six-yard touchdown pass to Rob Farrar. Clyde went for the two-point conversion and failed.

Clyde was still in the running for a major upset victory until Tim Stultz slanted off-tackle with 4:09 left in the game to give Calvert a 13-6 lead.

Calvert rushed for 233 yards and misfired on six passes, while Clyde gained 90 yards on the ground and clicked on just two of eight aerials in falling for the second time in five starts. The Fliers are 2-1 in the SBC compared to a 2-0 log for the Senecas.

Rough Day For 'AAA' Linksmen

It wasn't a good day for local and area golf teams in the Class AAA sectional tournament at Fremont Country Club Friday.

Sandusky, Perkins, Port Clinton and Vermilion were in the field and failed to qualify anyone for the district at Riverby Golf Club in Toledo next week.

Perkins' Dave Bixler came closest. He was involved in a playoff with Dave Seckinger of Oregon Clay for a spot in the district as an individual entry. However, Seckinger won the sudden death playoff.

The top four teams go to the district. Lexington was the winner at 337, followed by Shelby and Ashland with 340 each

and Fremont Ross at 342 strokes. Perkins was fifth with 347, while Port Clinton and Clay tallied 348 apiece and Sandusky 350. Toledo DeVilbiss (350), Mansfield Madison (357), Vermilion (361), Mansfield (365), and Toledo Woodward (369) rounded out the field.

In addition to Bixler's 80, Dave Carpenter collared 42-45-87, Harry Perdue 44-45-89, Robin Grathwol 45-46-91 and John Giesler 50-45-95. Bixler went out in 41 and came back with a fine 39 for his 80.

Tim Guerra fired the lowest round for the Streaks who were in contention at the halfway point but faltered on the back

nine. Guerra carded 37-45-82, Jim Riedy 43-44-87, Dan Kastor 47-43-90, Tim Hallock 46-45-91 and Tom Manuella 47-49-96.

For Port Clinton, Brad Meek turned in 43-41-84, Joe Ritter 42-43-85, Jeff Tibbs 46-43-89, Jeff Puffenbarger 44-46-90 and Gary Arico 45-46-91.

Vermilion's top shooter was Doug Bartlome with 45-44-89. Terry Pena had 45-45-90, Steve Gerken 45-45-90, Bill Rose 45-47-92 and Mike Gerken 48-47-95.

Sharing medalist honors with 79 were Jamie Elliott of Shelby and Jim Gish of Lexington.

Cooke Medalist In Class A Golf

Five area schools competed in the Class A sectional golf tournament at Greenhills Golf Club in Clyde Friday and none failed to qualify for the district next week.

However, Stan Cooke of New London earned a spot in the district in the individual category as a result of gaining medalist honors in another playoff. Cooke, who won the Firelands Conference medalist crown Thursday in a playoff, defeated Mike Deley of Mansfield St. Peter on the first hole of the playoff to secure a district berth.

Cooke posted 36-39-75 to lead the Wildcats who were sixth in the team standings with 353 strokes. Steve Baker carded 44-45-89, Don Bailey 47-42-89 and Jere Young 52-48-100 for New London.

St. Mary's Central Catholic finished eighth with 355 strokes as Jim Thompson carded 41-45-86, Jeff Veith 42-48-90, Tim Swint 42-48-90, Ed Herman 44-47-91 and Scott Kluding 42-47-89.

Norwalk St. Paul was seventh with 354 as Kevin Larizza turned in 40-43-83, Ken Bleile 43-46-89, Randy Wheeler 48-42-90, John Frank 46-46-92 and Matt Brenson 46-48-92.

Plymouth and South Central were well down the list with 407 and 432 respectively. John Ray submitted 49-45-94 for the Trojans and Jeff Ream was low for Plymouth with 45-43-88.

Woodmore claimed the championship easily with 328 points and Old Fort was next with 341. Bettsville finished third with 342 strokes and Mansfield St. Peter was fourth at 343, four strokes ahead of Fremont St. Joe in the 13 school field.

The top four teams qualified for the district.

Dick Schwab
616 E. Monroe St.
Phone 625-1663



"State Farm has LIFE insurance, too! Call me for details."



Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.

State Farm Life Insurance Company
Home Office: Bloomington, Illinois

Plymouth Absorbs 1st Loss

"We got beat by a good football team," said Plymouth coach Mike McFarren after his team's 21-8 loss to nemesis Ontario Friday in the opening Johnny Appleseed Conference clash for both teams.

Plymouth, unbeaten in four games, grabbed an 8-7 lead in the second period when workhorse Mike Messer dashed 21 yards and caught a short pass from Mark Miller for the two-point conversion.

However, the hosts were bottled up in their own territory the second half and Ontario struck for 14 points in the last quarter to maintain its hex over the Big Red who have yet to register a victory over their conference rivals in 14 meetings.

"We just couldn't get any field position in the second half. We'd seem to start deep in our own territory and move the ball somewhat but then have to punt," McFarren said.

Leonard Fashions 2-Hitter

KANSAS CITY (UPI) — Dennis Leonard started two games against the New York Yankees in the 1976 American League championship series and embarrassed himself.

The 25-year-old Brooklyn native, the ace of the Kansas City staff that year with 17 victories, started the second and fifth games but combined to pitch less than three innings. His earned-run average was a disastrous 19.29.

Leonard ached for revenge and finally got it Friday night in his first start of the 1977 playoffs. The fireballing righthander limited the Yankees to four hits while striking out four in giving the Royals a 6-2 victory and a 2-1 lead in the championship series.

"Dennis told me in the training room that this was the biggest game of his life," said Kansas City third baseman George Brett, who stroked two hits and scored a run in the game. "He said he had been waiting for that one for a year."

"I waited a long time for this one," admitted Leonard, one of just three pitchers in the American League to win 20 games this season. "I'm from New York and I think I might have made the folks back home happy."

Leonard faced the minimum 12 batters in the first four innings and got the first two batters in the fifth before running in to his only real trouble of the night. Graig Nettles reached first on an infield single and came all the way around to score on a double off the wall by Lou Piniella.

But Leonard got Willie Randolph on a groundout to short to end the inning. New York's only other run came in the ninth on a double by Roy White and an error by Kansas City first baseman John Mayberry.

"That may be the best game he's pitched all year," said Royals catcher Darrell Porter. "He mixed his pitches up real well. He had really good stuff from the start."

"He was throwing real easy out there," said Kansas City manager Whitey Herzog. "He had good life to his pitches. Any time he's not trying to overthrow he does a good job."

"It was one of his best games this year but I wouldn't say it was his best. He beat them 5-1 the last time he faced them."

Leonard finished second in the AL in strikeouts with 244 but said he was not that concerned with striking out Yankee batters Friday night.

"I didn't need to strike them out," said Leonard. "I wasn't looking for the strikeouts. We had really good defense and I just wanted to keep the ball in play. They got me six runs and I didn't want them to slip away."

Leonard downplayed the fact he was born in New York, saying it was no great thrill beating the Yankees. He admitted he was not a life-long fan of the Yankees, although he once rooted for them.

"I was a front-runner," said Leonard, who now resides in Sarasota, Fla. "I liked the Yankees when they were winning but when they started going bad I switched over to the Mets."

Trojans Romp

Rod Stevenson scored four touchdowns in leading South Central to a 40-12 romp over host Mapleton in another Firelands Conference battle Friday.

The point outburst was the highest for the Trojans since a 42-0 win over Black River in 1968 and was the first conference win in three starts. Mapleton suffered its fifth loss in a row.

Stevenson scored on runs of three, two and one twice for the winners who scored half of their points in the final stanza.

Chris Howard rambled 30 yards and Randy Conway raced 75 for other South Central touchdowns. Conway's burst came with eight seconds left in the game.

South Central relied on an awesome ground game, rolling up 291 yards rushing to 69 for the Mounties.



STAN COOKE

NOW!
3 Locations
to serve you better,
with more convenience.

• 1027 First St.
Sandusky

• 132 W. Water St.
Oak Harbor

• 808 Williams St.
Huron

No matter where you live,
we now have a store
closer to you.

ASHER BROS.

YOUR AUTO PARTNER STORE

PROFIT RAISING EARTHWORMS

Can You Answer "YES" to These Questions?

1. Do you like raising livestock?
2. Do you want a business of your own?
3. Do you need retirement or extra income?
4. Do you have a back yard or other land?



PERHAPS YOU CAN BECOME A WORM GROWER!

IF ACCEPTED AS A PRODUCER, WE OFFER:

- ★ Professional Guidance
- ★ Exchange Membership
- ★ Marketing Service
- ★ Complete Supplies

ACT TODAY! SEND FOR YOUR FREE BROCHURE!

Send name, address, phone, description of facilities to:



610 "A" STREET • SMYRNA, TENNESSEE 37167 • (615) 254-7327

Make the Classifieds a daily habit.
Thousands do and save, save, save!