Phillies defeat Dodgers, 8-7

Chris Murray
Tribune Staff Writer

After holding serve at home in Games 1 and 2 of the National League Championship Series, the Phillies traveled to Los Angeles two games away from their first World Series appearance since 1993.

On the Dodgers home field, starting with Sunday’s Game 3, will be the beginning of the long wait. Last time the Phillies visited Southern California, they were the victims of a sweep by the Dodgers in mid-August. The Phillies are breathing a sigh of relief after their 8-5 victory in front of 45,883 fans at Citizens Bank Park on Friday night to take a 2-0 lead in the best of seven.

Janet Moyer will take the mound against Dodgers right-hander Hiroki Kuroda Sunday (8:37 p.m. FOX-29, 1210 WFIT-AM, ESPN-450 AM) at Dodger Stadium.

Friday’s win comes with a heavy heart for Phillies manager Charlie Manuel, who received news of the death of his 87-year-old mother, Jane Manuel, Sunday. For centerfielder Shane Victorino, who received news shortly after the game that his 62-year-old grandmother, Irene Victorino, had passed away.

“I went to up (Manuel) and gave him a hug and I told him, ‘I’m going to win this for your mom today,’ said Phillies starting pitcher Brett Myers. “It was in the back of my mind for sure. He’s been so good to us, we just wanted to do this for him and his family.”

Shay Rollins is a standout basketball player for the University of San Francisco.

“I’m really looking forward to watching Jimmy play,” Shay said. “I’ve watched him all season. My mother (Gigi Rollins) and father (Jim Rollins) have the MLB package. We don’t miss a game. We always see him play against the Giants.

“The game is 300 miles from San Francisco. I’ll be heading down there. I’m in school right now. But I really want to see him play.”

Shay, 21, has been watching Jimmy, 26, play for the Padres since he was a kid.

The Rollins family is from Oakland, Calif. Shay used to come to all of Jimmy’s Babe Ruth games. She comes from a sports family.

“I was really young when Jimmy was playing Babe Ruth baseball,” Shay said. “My parents used to take me to the games. He was a really good player. I could tell he was going to be a phenomenal player. Jimmy really liked playing the game. I could see he was determined to play at the highest level, which is what most players want to do.”

Jimmy and Shay attended Encinal High School in Alameda, Calif. Of course, Jimmy was a big time baseball star. Shay played basketball in high school. Shay was a three-time Alameda Contra Athletic League first team selection.

She averaged 23.3 points per game during her career. She broke the league’s single-game scoring record with a 41-point performance against El Cerrito.

She is a 5-foot-8 senior point guard. She chose to play for the Philadelphia 76ers developmental team.

When the Philadelphia Phillies face the Los Angeles Dodgers on Sunday night at Dodger Stadium, Shay Rollins will be there to cheer on her older brother Jimmy Rollins in Game 3 of the National League Championship Series.

Shay will be flying down to L.A. from the Bay Area for the game, she is a standout basketball player for the University of San Francisco.

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Westbrook to sit out Sunday

Jordan Ingram
Tribune Correspondent

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He has been with the Eagles since 2006. Westbrook has been a key player in the Eagles’ offense and has been a key part of the team’s success in recent years.

He is expected to be replaced by Jerome Bettis, who was signed as a free agent this offseason. Bettis has played for several teams in his career and is known for his speed and agility.

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Hopkins to take on scrappy Pavlik

Jordan Ingram
Tribune Correspondent

Kelly Pavlik's not as wet behind the ears as people think.

When Bernard Hopkins (42-5-1) steps into the ring at Boardwalk Hall next Saturday night, underestimating his opponent would be a fatal mistake.

Heading into the 20th anniversary of his first bout in Atlantic City, the Nicetown native doesn't intend to take the gritty undefeated middleweight champion lightly.

"Kelly Pavlik can walk in Philadelphia and, though he might get into a fight or two, will earn [people's] respect win or lose because that's the mentality he brings to the table. I recognize that and that's why I know what I'm going to have to do to him in the ring. He won't quit, he's not going back down and he's not going to become a boxer all of a sudden."

Pavlik (34-0) established a solid body of work before dismantling Jermain Taylor to capture the middleweight crown.

Six of his past eight fights were title bouts including a seventh-round technical knockout of the hard-nosed Edison Miranda.

The middleweight champ feels that these underrated experiences could pay dividends in his fight against the wily veteran.

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Rollins
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really good. I also like the ice cream and water ice from John's Water Ice (7th and Christian streets). I've met a lot of the players. I met Ryan Howard and Shane Victorino. They're good friends with Jimmy.

Jimmy, a three-time National League all-star and reigning MVP, is one of baseball's top players. He has a very high profile. Jimmy has appeared in several major publications along with being interviewed on national television.

"We're all excited about the Phillies," Shay said. "Jimmy has received a lot of attention. It's interesting the people in the athletic department know that he's my brother and some of the student-athletes do. Actually, some of my teachers do, too. But some people don't know that he's my brother. He's done very well. We're really happy for him. Our family will be following him throughout the playoffs."

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