

Red Sox Beat Rockies in Nail-Biter for 2-0 lead in World Series

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BOSTON - First a blowout, then a nail-biter. October ace Curt Schilling and Boston's stingy bullpen figured out another way to stop Colorado. Relying more on guile than pure gas, Schilling pitched the Red Sox to a 2-1 victory Thursday night and a 2-0 lead in the World Series over the suddenly stagnant Rockies.



The Series shifts to spacious Coors Field for Game 3 on Saturday night, when \$103 million rookie Daisuke Matsuzaka pitches for Boston against Josh Fogg. With no designated hitter allowed, the Red Sox must decide whether to play hobbling slugger David Ortiz at first base or leave his mighty bat on the bench.

One night after Josh Beckett blazed through the Rockies with 97 mph fastballs in a 13-1 rout, Schilling shut them down with savvy and splitters. Nearly automatic in October, he improved to 11-2 with a 2.23 ERA in 19

postseason starts and tipped his cap to the pulsing crowd as he walked off the mound — perhaps for the final time in a Red Sox uniform.

Coming off eight days of rest, the wide-eyed Rockies looked awfully rusty while getting blitzed in the opener. They hardly resembled the team that had won 10 straight and 21 of 22 to earn the first pennant in their 15-year history. Colorado came to play in Game 2. But Boston's pitchers were too much for an offense that really hasn't hit all month. The Rockies' incredible charge to the pennant masked this fact: they entered Thursday batting only .235 in the postseason.

1. A batting average represents the percentage of at bats that result in hits for a particular baseball player. The formula is hits divided by at bats = batting average (mean). Given the fact that a starting lineup consists of nine players, create measures of central tendency yielding the following results: Mean: .235, Median: .244, Mode: .241, and Range: .27.
2. Michael Jones and Linda Tappin of Montclair State University in New Jersey have devised mathematically simpler alternatives to the Pythagorean Theorem of Baseball. To predict the winning percentage of a team, one new model simply uses a little addition, subtraction, and multiplication. It starts with the total runs scored by the team in all its games (Rs), and subtracts the runs it allows (Ra), and then multiplies it by a number called "beta" (B) which is chosen to produce the best results. For the 1969-2003 seasons, the optimal values of B range from 0.00053 to 0.00078, with an average of 0.00065. Adding 0.5 to the result gives the predicted winning percentage of the team. The resulting formula looks like this: $P = 0.5 + B \cdot (Rs - Ra)$ Considering a season consist of 162 games and a particular team scored an average of five runs per game while surrendering approximately 4.1, simply *explain* the process by which this equation would be solved.
3. Pitcher's earned run average, multiply the total earned runs charged against his pitching by 9, and divide the result by the total number of innings he pitched. NOTE: Earned run average shall be calculated on the basis of total innings pitched including fractional innings. EXAMPLE: 9 1/3 innings pitched and 3 earned runs is an earned run average of 2.89 (3 ER times 9 divided by 9 1/3 equals 2.89). In 1988, Curt Schilling had an ERA of 9.82 after having only pitched 14.7 innings. How many earned runs did the 21-year old rookie surrender?
4. In Major League Baseball, the pitcher's mound is located precisely 60 feet and six inches from home plate whereas most little leagues are just 46 feet. How much faster would Josh Beckett's 97 mile per hour fastball have registered on a little league diamond as opposed to the traditional Major League Baseball professional dimensions?
5. The \$51.11 million the Red Sox offered to pay for the rights to Daisuke Matsuzaka was enough to get the Japanese ace across the Pacific Ocean. It took another \$52,000,000.00 to purchase his services for six years. Assuming that upon conclusion of his contract Matsuzaka had pitched in approximately 35 games a season and in each of which he averaged 6.2 innings (there are three outs per inning), how much money did he earn per out manufactured?
6. Upon completion of this assignment, how far have we progressed through the 2007-08 series of The Daughtry Times? Express your answer as a fraction, decimal, and percentage.
7. As obtained from the passage above, in paragraph form, explain at least eight ways using the "Traditional Writing Guidelines and Checklist for Success" simplifies the paragraph writing process. Be specific.
8. As obtained from the passage above, in paragraph form, explain at least six ways using the "Preliminary Reading Guidelines and Checklist for Success" simplifies understanding of the material. Be specific.
9. In complete sentences, using contextual clues only, explain the meaning of the words: *guile* and *stagnant*. Additionally, use each defined word in a sentence to demonstrate further comprehension.
10. In paragraph form, explain at least five legitimate and educational purposes behind The Daughtry Times.