

# game notes

NEW YORK METS MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT • CITI FIELD • FLUSHING, NY 11368

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## ST. LOUIS CARDINALS (9-9-4) AT NEW YORK METS (11-10-1) MARCH 19, 2024 - 6:10 PM CLOVER PARK - PORT ST. LUCIE, FL RHP LANCE LYNN (0-0, 6.00) VS. LHP SEAN MANAEA (1-1, 4.05) SNY



**PREVIOUSLY ON...:** On Sunday, the Mets went 1-1 during their split squad...In West Palm Beach, New York fell to Washington, 9-8...RHP Tyler Megill started and allowed four runs over 3.2 innings...DH Luke Voit put the Mets on the board with a solo home run in the second...C Omar Narváez went 2-2 with an RBI single in the fourth and an RBI double in the fifth...INF Pete Alonso, INF Joey Wendle and OF Ben Gamel each recorded RBI singles in the fifth...At Clover Park, the Mets defeated the Marlins, 7-6, in walk-off fashion thanks to a game-winning solo homer by Jose Iglesias...LHP Jose Quintana started and allowed six runs (four earned) over 4.1 innings...INF Ji-Man Choi put the Mets on the board with an RBI single...The Mets erased a 6-1 deficit thanks to an RBI single by DH Starling Marte in the sixth, a three-run homer by INF Mark Vietnos in the sixth and a game-tying solo homer by OF Harrison Bader in the seventh...RHP Drew Smith threw 1.2 scoreless innings in relief...RHPs Edwin Diaz and Phil Bickford each threw 1.0 scoreless in relief

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Happy Birthday to RHP José Buttó...We wish him well today.

**VS. ST. LOUIS:** Tonight, the Mets will play their sixth and final Grapefruit League game against the Cardinals...Through their first five games against St. Louis this spring, the Mets have gone 3-1-1...Last season, the Mets won the season series over St. Louis, 4-3, and outscored the Cardinals 43-26...The Mets will take on the Cardinals from April 26-28 at Citi Field and from May 6-8 at Busch Stadium.

**XBH MARKS THE SPOT:** This spring, Mark Vientos has recorded six extra-base hits, tied for 11th in the Grapefruit League...Five of Vientos' six extra-base hits have come since March 9, tied for third-most in the majors during that span...Vientos ranks tied for fifth in the majors with four home runs, three of which have come in his past six games.

**CLOVER PARK:** The Mets will call Clover Park home for their 36th season...Opened in 1988, Clover Park seats 7,000 fans and also serves as the regular season home to the Mets Class-A affiliate St. Lucie Mets...The ballpark also donned the name Thomas J. White Stadium (1988-2004), Tradition Field (2004-2009, 2012-2016), Digital Domain Park (2010-2012) and First Data Field (2017-2019).

**SOUND THE TRUMPETS:** RHP Edwin Díaz has retired all six batters he has faced in his first two games of the spring...On March 11 vs. Miami, Díaz struck out the side in his first game since suffering a season-ending ruptured patella tendon in March of 2023...In 2022, Díaz was named the Trevor Hoffman National League Relief Pitcher of the Year after posting a 1.31 ERA (9 ER/62.0 IP) with 32 saves and 118 strikeouts...A two-time All-Star, Díaz has pitched to a 2.93 ERA (130 ER/399.1 IP) and has recorded 205 saves over seven major league seasons

**MENDOZA LINES:** Carlos Mendoza will begin his first season as the 25th manager in franchise history...The 44-year-old spent the previous 15 seasons with the Yankees organization, including the last four as the club's bench coach...From 2018-2019, Mendoza served as the Yankees' quality control coach...Prior to joining the big league coaching staff, Mendoza served as a manager and coach in the Yankees farm system...A native of Barquisimeto, Venezuela, Mendoza is the second full-time Venezuelan-born manager in big league history, joining Ozzie Guillén.

**OPENING DAY JOSE:** On March 13, manager Carlos Mendoza named LHP Jose Quintana the Mets' 2024 Opening Day starter...The 35-year-old will make his second career Opening Day start (Also: 2017 w/ Chicago-AL)...The southpaw will be the first left-handed pitcher to start Opening Day for the Mets since Jon Niese in 2013...Last season, Quintana went 3-6 with a 3.57 ERA (30 ER/75.1 IP) over 13 starts in his first season in Queens...Quintana missed the entire first half of the season due to a stress fracture in his rib cage...The 12-year veteran has gone 92-93 with a 3.74 ERA (784 ER/1799.1 IP) over the course of his career with seven different clubs: Chicago-AL (2012-2017), Chicago-NL (2017-2020), Los Angeles-AL (2021), San Francisco (2021), Pittsburgh (2022), St. Louis (2022) and the Mets (2023-present).

**ARMS APLENTY:** Through 22 games this spring, Mets pitchers have posted a 3.09 ERA (65 ER/189.1 IP), the best mark in the majors...The staff's 113 WHIP also leads the majors...Mets relievers lead the majors in bullpen ERA with a 3.02 (41 ER/125.0 IP) clip...Mets starters have posted a 3.22 ERA (23 ER/64.1 IP), the second-lowest such mark in the majors.

**NEW FACES IN NEW PLACES:** The 2024 Mets enter the season with several new players on the roster...These include: free agent signings OF Harrison Bader, LHP Jake Diekman, RHP Shintaro Fujinami, RHP Jorge López, LHP Sean Manaea, RHP Luis Severino, RHP Michael Tonkin and INF Joey Wendle; trade acquisitions RHP Adrian Houser, RHP Yohan Ramirez and OF Tyrone Taylor; waiver claims RHP Max Kranick and INF Zack Short; and minor league free agents: RHP Austin Adams, C Austin Allen, INF Rylan Bannon, INF Ji-Man Choi, RHP Kyle Crick, OF Ben Gamel, INF Jose Iglesias, OF Taylor Kohlwey, RHP Cam Robinson, INF Yolmer Sánchez, RHP Chad Smith, RHP Cole Sulser, OF Trayce Thompson, INF Luke Voit and LHP Danny Young.

**ATTABOY ALVAREZ:** In his rookie season, Francisco Alvarez slugged 25 home runs, the third-most by a Mets rookie trailing only Pete Alonso (2019) and Darryl Strawberry (1983)...Alvarez's 25 home runs last season were the second-most ever by a catcher age 21 or younger only behind Hall of Famer Johnny Bench (26, 1969)...Research courtesy of Sarah Langs...The Guatire, Venezuela native was named National League Rookie of the month for July.

**POLAR POWER:** Pete Alonso finished the 2023 season third in the majors in homers (46) and second in RBI (118)...He became the fifth player in major league history with three or more seasons of 40 or more homers in their first five years, joining Ralph Kiner (four), Ryan Howard, Albert Pujols and Eddie Mathews (three each)...His 192 career home runs are the most in the majors since his MLB debut in 2019 and are the third-most in major league history by a player in their first five major league seasons trailing Kiner (215) and Pujols (201)...Alonso currently ranks tied for fourth with Howard Johnson on the Mets all-time home run list...Mike Piazza is next (220).

**STEAL THIS ALBUM:** The Mets led the major leagues in 2023 with an 88.7% success rate in stolen bases...The team stole 118 bases in 133 attempts...It's the highest success rate in Mets history...The previous high was 82.3% which was accomplished in 2004...From May 11-June 29 the Mets stole a franchise-record 35 consecutive bases.

### EXPECTED TO START

**LHP SEAN MANAEA:** Will make his third Grapefruit League start tonight...In his last start, March 9 at St. Louis, Manaea threw 4.0 scoreless innings and struck out five batters...On January 12, Manaea signed a two-year contract with the Mets...Last season, Manaea appeared in a career-high 37 games (10 starts) with San Francisco and went 7-6 with a 4.44 (58 ER/117.2 IP)...From July 29 through the end of the season, he posted a 2.61 ERA (15 ER/51.2 IP), the third-best mark in the NL and ninth-best in the majors (Min. 50.0 IP)...In 2022, Manaea went 8-9 with a 4.96 ERA (87 ER/158.0 IP) in 30 games (28 starts) as a member of the Padres...The southpaw spent his first six major league seasons with Oakland and went 50-41 with a 3.86 ERA (312 ER/727.0 IP) over 129 outings...In 2021, Manaea tied for the American League lead in starts with 32 and was one of five pitchers in the majors to record two shutouts...That season, Manaea established career highs in innings (179.1) and strikeouts (194)...On April 21, 2018 Manaea threw a no-hitter vs. Boston, the first by an A's pitcher since Dallas Braden's perfect game on May 9, 2010...A native of Valparaiso, Indiana, Manaea was originally drafted by the A's in the first round (34th overall) of the 2013 First-Year Player Draft out of Indiana State University.

Date/Opp	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K
3/2 @ MIA	2.2	7	3	3	0	3
3/9 @ STL	4.0	2	0	0	3	5

**TYLOR THE CREATOR:** Among qualifiers this spring, Tyler Megill ranks eighth in the majors in WHIP (1.02) and ninth in opponent batting average (.21)...The right-hander also is tied for eighth in the majors in innings pitched (15.2).

**INVADER NIM:** Last season, Brandon Nimmo established career highs in many offensive categories including, games played (152), hits (162), homers (24), XBH (60) and RBI (68)...Nimmo's six triples were tied for eighth in the NL and his 13 triples since 2022 are tied for the most in the NL during that span...Since 2018, Nimmo has sported a .382 OBP, the fifth-highest mark in the NL and the 10th-highest mark in the majors during that time frame (Min. 2000 plate appearances)...His 24 home runs from the lead-off spot were the tied with Tommie Agee (1970) for the second-most by a Met in a single season.

### UPCOMING PITCHING

**TUESDAY, MARCH 19**  
6:10 PM vs. St. Louis

**METS:** LHP Sean Manaea, RHP Austin Adams, LHP Jake Diekman, RHP Jorge López, RHP Yohan Ramirez

**CARDINALS:** RHP Lance Lynn

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20**  
1:10 PM at Miami

**METS:** TBA

**MARLINS:** LHP Patrick Monteverde

**THURSDAY, MARCH 21**  
1:05 PM at Detroit

**METS:** TBA

**TIGERS:** TBA

