

GAME NOTES

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

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TAMPA BAY RAYS (6-7-1) VS. NEW YORK METS (6-7-1)

MARCH 12, 2023 • 1:10 PM

CLOVER PARK • PORT ST. LUCIE, FL

RHP LUIS PATIÑO (1-0, 0.00) VS. RHP CARLOS CARRASCO (0-1, 5.40)

WPIX - WCBS 880



HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Happy birthday to Mets Hall of Famer Darryl Strawberry...We wish him well today.

ROSTER MOVES: RHP José Butto has been optioned to Triple-A Syracuse... RHP Connor Grey, RHP Grant Hartwig, RHP Eric Orze, LHP Josh Walker, C Kevin Parada and OF Alex Ramirez have been reassigned to minor league camp...The Mets now have 55 players in major league camp.

VS TAMPA BAY: The Mets will play their first of two Grapefruit League games against the Rays...New York travels to Port Charlotte on March 23...Tampa Bay will visit Citi Field this season from May 16 - May 18...The Mets are 14-16 lifetime against the Rays.

YESTERDAY: The Mets fell to the Nationals, 10-7, in West Palm Beach...RHP John Curtiss made his first start of the spring and recorded a 1-2-3 inning with two strikeouts...The right-hander has only allowed one baserunner over four scoreless appearances this spring...LF DJ Stewart had a two-run double in the fifth...1B Mark Vientos went 3-4 with a double and two-run single in the fifth...Vientos leads the Mets with nine RBI this spring...3B Brett Baty reached base in all four plate appearances, going 2-2 with two walks and a stolen base.

AMAZIN' DAY: The New York Mets are taking over New York City with the club's first-ever Amazin' Day, an all-day, citywide extravaganza for Mets fans taking place on Saturday, March 25...Fans who wear a Mets hat or any Mets gear will be granted access to several events at iconic NYC institutions, community-focused events, and giveaways throughout the day...With the Mets focused on creating the best fan experience in sports, fans can sign up for the chance to win exclusive ticketed events on Amazin' Day and enter the Amazin' Day Sweepstakes to win the ultimate grand prize starting today...For information and updates on Amazin' Day, please visit Mets.com/AmazinDay or follow the Mets on social media.

ON THE WORLD STAGE: INF Francisco Lindor went 2-4 with two runs and an RBI in Team Puerto Rico's victory over Team Nicaragua yesterday...INF Jonathan Araúz is 4-15 with a .421 OBP and three RBI in four WBC games for Team Panama...Minor league RHP Humberto Mejía has tossed 4.0 scoreless innings in two outings (one start) for Team Panama...Baseball Hall of Famer & Mets Hall of Famer Mike Piazza led Team Italy to a 2-2 record in his WBC managerial debut.

YOUTH MOVEMENT: Several of the Mets top prospects are among the major league leaderboard in several offensive categories this spring...Brett Baty leads the majors in average (.458) and OBP (.650) among qualifiers...Baty also ranks third in OPS with a 1.177 mark... Both Baty and Mark Vientos are tied for sixth in the majors this spring with 11 hits...Vientos is tied for fourth in the majors with nine RBI...Ronny Mauricio is tied for 10th in the majors with three home runs.

T-LO: Tim Lincecum has had an excellent spring and is tied for second in the majors with five doubles and in runs with eight...Lincecum also ranks third in OBP with a .469 clip and is tied for third in doubles with five as well as stolen bases with five.

THAT'S A LOTTA HARDWARE: With Justin Verlander and Max Scherzer, the 2023 Mets are the third team in major league history to boast multiple three-time Cy Young award winners on their roster in the same season, joining the 1986 White Sox (Tom Seaver and Steve Carlton) and the 2021 Dodgers (Scherzer and Clayton Kershaw).

THE BUCK STARTS HERE: In his first season as Mets skipper, Buck Showalter took home the NL Manager of the Year Award...He led the club to 101 wins and its first playoff berth since 2016...Showalter was also named Manager of the Year in 1994 with the Yankees, 2004 with the Rangers and 2014 with the Orioles...His four Manager of the Year Awards are tied for the most in the award's history with Bobby Cox and Tony La Russa...Showalter ranks 18th all-time and third among active managers with 1,652 managerial wins...Showalter is the first Mets manager to record 100 or more victories in his first season with the club...He joins Yogi Berra as the only managers to guide both the Mets and Yankees into the playoffs.

POLAR POWER: Last season, INF Pete Alonso tied for the major league lead with 131 RBI, the most ever by a Met in a single season...Alonso finished third in the majors with 40 home runs in 2022 and became the first Met ever with multiple seasons of 40 or more home runs...His 146 career home runs are the fourth most by a major leaguer through his first four major league seasons trailing Ralph Kiner (168), Albert Pujols (160) and Eddie Mathews (153)...Alonso ranks seventh in franchise history in home runs...He is three home runs behind Carlos Beltrán and trails Dave Kingman by eight long balls.

GLOBAL GAME: 10 players in major league camp with the Mets will compete in the 2023 World Baseball Classic...INF Pete Alonso, INF/OF Jeff McNeil, RHP Adam Ottavino and LHP Brooks Raley will play for Team USA...INF Eduardo Escobar and C Omar Narváez will compete for Team Venezuela...RHP Edwin Díaz and INF Francisco Lindor will play for Team Puerto Rico...INF Jonathan Araúz, a non-roster invitee, will compete for Team Panama...Minor leaguers RHP Dominic Hamel (Puerto Rico), RHP Humberto Mejía (Panama), LHP Cam Opp (Great Britain) and RHP Claudio Scotti (Italy) will also participate in the 2023 World Baseball Classic...Baseball Hall of Famer & Mets Hall of Famer Mike Piazza will manage Team Italy.

NEW FACES IN NEW PLACES: The 2023 Mets enter Spring Training with several new players on the roster...These include: OF Abraham Almonte (minor league free agent), INF Jonathan Araúz (minor league free agent), RHP Jeff Brigham (trade), OF Lorenzo Cedrola (minor league free agent), RHP Sam Coonrod (waiver claim), RHP Zach Greene (Rule 5 Draft), RHP Elieser Hernández (trade), OF Tim Lincecum (minor league free agent), LHP T.J. McFarland (minor league free agent) INF Danny Mendick (free agent), LHP Zach Muckenhirn (minor league free agent), C Omar Narváez (free agent), INF José Peraza (minor league free agent), OF Tommy Pham (free agent), LHP José Quintana (free agent), LHP Brooks Raley (trade), RHP Denyi Reyes (minor league free agent), RHP Stephen Ridings (waiver claim), RHP David Robertson (free agent), RHP Kodai Senga (free agent), OF DJ Stewart (minor league free agent), RHP William Woods (minor league free agent), RHP Justin Verlander (free agent) and RHP Jimmy Yacabonis (minor league free agent).

HEY NOW, YOU'RE AN ALL-STAR: Last season, INF Pete Alonso, RHP Edwin Díaz, OF Starling Marte and INF/OF Jeff McNeil were selected to play for the National League in the 2022 All-Star Game at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles...The Mets four All-Star selections in 2022 were the most in a season since 2016 (Noah Syndergaard, Yoenis Céspedes, Jeurys Familia and Bartolo Colón)...McNeil started for the National League at second base and was the first Met to start an All-Star Game since David Wright and Matt Harvey both started in the 2013 All-Star Game at Citi Field...McNeil joined Ron Hunt (1964) as the only other Met to start at second base in the All-Star Game.

EXPECTED TO START

RHP CARLOS CARRASCO: Will make his second start of the spring tonight...The 36-year-old returns for his third season with the Mets after 29 starts and a 15-7 record in 2022...Pitched to a 3.97 ERA (67 ER/152.0 IP) and recorded 152 strikeouts last year, and held a career-high 22.2-inning scoreless streak from July 14 to August 4...The 2019 Roberto Clemente and AL Comeback Player of the Year Award-winner ranks sixth all-time in strikeouts by a Venezuelan-born pitcher (1,507) and became the eighth Venezuela native to reach 100 career wins on July 30, 2022 at Miami in a scoreless 7.2-inning appearance...Is one of 14 pitchers with at least five seasons of 150+ strikeouts since 2015...Thus far in his 11-year career with Cleveland and New York, Carrasco has appeared in 283 games (236 starts) and holds a 104-85 record with a 3.87 ERA (623 ER/1448.0 IP) and 1.22 WHIP.

Date/Opp	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K
3/2 vs. ATL	2.0	2	2	2	1	1
3/7 at HOU	3.0	4	1	1	0	2

THE BATTING CHAMP IS HERE: Last season, INF/OF Jeff McNeil became the first Met ever to win a major league batting title and joined José Reyes (2011) as the only other Met to win a National League batting title...The two-time All-Star owns a .307 career batting average, the second-best clip by a Met through their first five big league seasons behind David Wright's .309 mark (min. 1,500 AB).

SMILE LIKE YOU MEAN IT: Last season, INF Francisco Lindor set a Mets shortstop record for most RBI in a season with a career-high 107 RBI...The 28-year-old has led all shortstops with 184 home runs since he debuted in 2015...Lindor is one of 11 players to hit 150 or more homers and swipe 100 or more bags since 2015.

METSCELLANEOUS: The Mets finished the 2022 season with a 101-61 record and finished in second place in the National League East...The club clinched their first playoff berth since 2016 and fell to the Padres in the National League Wild Card Series, 2-1.

YES, THE CLOSER: RHP Edwin Díaz won the 2022 Trevor Hoffman NL Relief Pitcher of the Year Award...The two-time All-Star joined Craig Kimbrel as the only pitchers in major league history to win Reliever of the Year in both leagues...Díaz pitched to a 1.31 ERA (9 ER/62.0 IP) and led all major league relievers with 118 strikeouts...His 50.2 strikeout rate was the third-best in major league history for a single season...The right-hander became the 12th pitcher in major league history to strike out at least 100 batters, record 30 or more saves, and sport a sub-1.50 ERA.

UPCOMING PITCHING

SUNDAY

1:10 PM vs. Tampa Bay

RAYS: RHP Luis Patiño, LHP Mason Montgomery, RHP Evin Rodriguez, RHP Braden Bristo, RHP Colten Brewer, RHP Ben Heller

METS: RHP Carlos Carrasco

MONDAY

1:10 PM at Miami

METS: TBA

MARLINS: LHP Braxton Garrett, LHP A.J. Puk, LHP Tanner Scott, LHP Josh Simpson, LHP Will Stewart

