

# WorldSeries

By Dave Sheinin and Barry Svrluga



## Colorado Rockies vs. Boston Red Sox



Rockies (89-73) defeated San Diego in a one-game playoff to win the NL wild card. Division Series: defeated Philadelphia Phillies in three games. LCS: defeated Arizona Diamondbacks in four games. Red Sox (96-66), AL East champions. Division Series: defeated Los Angeles Angels in three games. LCS: defeated Cleveland Indians in seven games.



BY HARRY HOW — GETTY IMAGES

Colorado left fielder Matt Holliday could be a logical choice to DH during the games at Fenway.

### COLORADO'S OFFENSE

**What we know about the Rockies' offense:**

■ That this is one of the few National League lineups that might fit into the American League. Colorado scored 860 runs this season, just seven fewer than Boston, and led the NL with a .280 batting average (better than Boston's .279). The anchors are obvious — Matt Holliday, the most valuable player of the NL Championship Series, who homered in each of the final two games against Arizona and who hits in front of Todd Helton, Garrett Atkins, Brad Hawpe and Troy Tulowitzki. Put Tulowitzki up against, say, the Red Sox' seventh-place hitter — normally Jason Varitek — and it shows how deep the Rockies' lineup is. The rookie shortstop sputtered to a 3-for-16 NLCS, but his teammates believe he's polished and brash enough to come through with a huge series.

That is the defining characteristic of this offense: Don't sleep on anyone. In the postseason, the most significant at-bat in a given game has come from Willy Taveras, Holliday, catcher Yorvit Torrealba, pinch

hitter Jeff Baker and second baseman Kazuo Matsui. There's no predicting the hero. **What we don't know about the Rockies' offense:** ■ Will Colorado be able to use its speed? Taveras returned from a strained leg muscle to join the team in the NLCS, when he had only three hits but drew a game-winning, bases-loaded walk and showed how disruptive he can be. Taveras led the majors with 37 bunt hits, but Boston third baseman Mike Lowell is among the best defenders at his position. The guessing game between Lowell and Taveras — will Taveras bunt, or will he try to slap one through the infield? — could be fascinating. ■ How will the Rockies use the designated hitter in the games at Fenway Park? Can Holliday DH, with Ryan Spilborghs — a .299 hitter in the regular season — inserted in left field? Holliday served as the designated hitter only once all season. Another possibility: using Atkins, the defensively challenged third baseman, as the DH. That, though, might not help the offense, because light-hitting Jamey Carroll would be at third.



BY DAVID J. PHILLIP — ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jeff Francis has stuck out among Rockies pitchers, having won Game 1 of both playoff series.

### COLORADO'S PITCHING

**What we know about the Rockies' pitching:**

■ It's better than you think. Only three National Leaguers won more games in the regular season than Game 1 starter Jeff Francis did — San Diego's Jake Peavy, Arizona's Brandon Webb and the Chicago Cubs' Carlos Zambrano. He has also proven to be a worthy postseason competitor, going 2-0 with a 2.13 ERA in leading the Rockies to Game 1 victories in each of its first two playoff series. He leads a rotation that has a 2.43 ERA in the postseason. ■ As solid as the starters have been, the bullpen is better. Collective ERA in the postseason: 1.61. And the only real misstep came when setup man Brian Fuentes allowed a homer to Arizona's Chris Snyder in Game 4 of the National League Championship Series, accounting for three of the five earned runs the bullpen has allowed in 28 postseason innings. Nearly every Rockies reliever — from scrapheap right-handers Matt Herges and LaTroy Hawkins to lefty Jeremy Affeldt — has been reliable.

**What we don't know about the Rockies' pitching:**

■ How will adding veteran right-hander Aaron Cook change the Rockies' mix? Cook, the Opening Day starter, last pitched in the majors Aug. 10. He has been out since with a strained oblique muscle, but Rockies Manager Clint Hurdle named him as his starter for Game 4 in Denver. Cook felt he had earned the right to pitch, though 21-year-old rookie Franklin Morales helped the Rockies get to the postseason. That puts Morales in the bullpen as the long man, a roll to which he is not accustomed. His two postseason starts were rocky, lasting a combined seven innings. He has just one relief appearance at any level since 2005, and it will be interesting to see how he would adjust to getting up quickly and entering the game in the middle of an inning. Finally, how will right-hander Ubaldo Jimenez — who has just 18 major league starts, including the postseason — react to this stage?

### COLORADO'S MANAGER

**What we know about the Rockies' manager:** ■ Clint Hurdle took over early in the 2002 season, and he had never so much as posted a winning season until this year. But he has an unwavering belief in the way Colorado built its team, and he has ceded more control of his club to the players as they have matured. "You only control what you can control," he said. **What we don't know about the Rockies' manager:** ■ Hurdle played in the World Series in 1980 for the Kansas City Royals, but he leads a team that has only one player who has played in the World Series — Taveras, who appeared as a rookie with Houston in 2005. If the situation grows tense, will Hurdle be able to use his experience and lead his young players through it?



BY WINSLOW TOWNSON — ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manny Ramirez, admiring a homer in the ALCS, has a lot of help beyond David Ortiz in Boston's lineup.

### BOSTON'S OFFENSE

**What we've learned about the Red Sox' offense:**

■ It's not all about Manny and Papi. While the Red Sox' dynamic duo of Ramirez and Ortiz carried the team during its American League Division Series and the first part of the championship series, neither had a huge role in the three straight wins that clinched the pennant. Instead, it was Kevin Youkilis (homer, triple, three RBI in Game 5), J.D. Drew (grand slam in Game 6) and Dustin Pedroia (homer, five RBI in Game 7) who had the biggest hits. ■ They will force you to throw strikes. Few hitters have the plate discipline of Ortiz, Ramirez and Youkilis. This was most evident when facing Cleveland Indians stud Fausto Carmona, whose wicked sinkers are meant to induce ugly out-of-the-strike-zone swings. They laid off those, and pounded the ones in the zone. Partly as a result, the Red Sox

out-walked the Indians, 31-16, in the ALCS. **What we still don't know about the red Sox' offense:** ■ Have we seen the last of Coco Crisp as a starter? The Red Sox benched the disappointing center fielder in the final two games of the ALCS, and replaced him with rookie Jacoby Ellsbury — their designated electrician — who scored three runs and stole a base in his two starts. ■ Will their self-destructive tendency to ground into double plays catch up to them? The Red Sox have grounded into a staggering 20 double plays this postseason, including a record 14 in the ALCS — the majority of those against sinkerballers Jake Westbrook and Carmona. The Rockies don't have any pure sinkerballers (unless Aaron Cook gets a start), but they would be wise to pound the Red Sox with two-seamers in the strike zone.



GETTY IMAGES

Josh Beckett has burnished his already impressive postseason résumé this October.

### BOSTON'S PITCHING

**What we've learned about the Red Sox' pitching:**

■ Josh Beckett is virtually unbeatable in October. Beckett's numbers this postseason: 3 starts, 3 wins, 23 innings, 3 earned runs (a 1.17 ERA), 1 walk, 26 strikeouts, a .160 opponents' batting average. He will start Games 1 and 5 for the Red Sox, and would be waiting in the bullpen for a cameo in a potential Game 7. Yes, the Rockies beat him during the regular season, but that wasn't October. ■ That Curt Schilling is still a formidable postseason weapon. The 40-year-old right-hander has won two of his three starts this postseason, proving he can still get hitters out with lesser stuff. He doesn't strike out as many batters (only 12 in 18½ innings), but he has issued only one walk in those three starts. ■ That Eric Gagne not see meaningful

action, unless the Red Sox have already used every pitcher on their own roster, plus Pawtucket's. **What we still don't know about the Red Sox' pitching:** ■ Can the soft middle of their bullpen be trusted? Get Boston's starter out of the game in the fifth inning or sooner, and you stand a chance. Manny Delcarmen (9.00 ERA), Gagne (8.10) and Javier Lopez (15.43) have been mostly ineffective in limited duty. ■ Whether Daisuke Matsuzaka is capable of a big, shut-down performance. The Japanese rookie finally made it through the fifth inning of a start in Game 7 of the American League Championship Series, but just barely. And opponents have hit .317 off him this postseason. Scouts say he has gotten too fastball-happy of late. Maybe he needs to throw more gyroballs.

### BOSTON'S MANAGER

**What we've learned about the Red Sox' manager:** ■ That Terry Francona knows his personnel better than anyone. Francona pushed a lot of correct buttons in the first two rounds, getting production out of reserves Bobby Kielty and Ellsbury and showing the right amount of patience with Matsuzaka and veterans Julio Lugo and Drew. **What we still don't know about the Red Sox' manager:** ■ Whether he fully trusts anyone in his bullpen other than Hideki Okajima and Jonathan Papelbon. After Matsuzaka's departure in Game 7 of the ALCS, Francona coaxed two innings each out of Okajima and Papelbon. ■ Whether he will bench DH Ortiz for Games 3, 4 and 5 in Denver — under NL rules — or put Ortiz at first and bench either Mike Lowell or Youkilis.

### COLORADO VS. BOSTON

**June 12:** Red Sox 2, Rockies 1  
WP: Wakefield; LP: Cook  
**June 13:** Rockies 12, Red Sox 2  
WP: Fogg; LP: Schilling  
**June 14:** Rockies 7, Red Sox 1  
WP: Francis; LP: Beckett

### WORLD SERIES RECORDS

**Red Sox (Won 6, Lost 4)**  
Overall record: 37-26-1  
2004 Beat Cardinals, 4-0  
1986 Lost to Mets, 4-3  
1975 Lost to Reds, 4-3  
1967 Lost to Cardinals, 4-3  
1946 Lost to Cardinals, 4-3  
1918 Beat Cubs, 4-2  
1916 Beat Dodgers, 4-1  
1915 Beat Phillies, 4-1  
1912 Beat Giants, 4-3-1  
1903 Beat Pirates, 5-3  
**Rockies:** First trip

### COLORADO ROCKIES

CATCHERS	B/T	2007 REGULAR SEASON					2007 POSTSEASON					'07 VS. RED SOX				
		AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG.	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG.	HR	RBI	
Iannetta, Chris	R/R	197	22	43	4	2	.218									
Torrealba, Yorvit	R/R	396	47	101	8	47	.255	25	5	8	1	7	.320	.455	0	1
<b>INFELDERS</b>																
Atkins, Garrett	R/R	605	83	182	25	111	.301	27	3	5	0	1	.185	.333	1	5
Carroll, Jamey	R/R	227	45	51	2	22	.225	1	0	0	0	0	.000	—	0	0
Helton, Todd	L/L	557	86	178	17	91	.320	26	4	4	0	1	.154	.167	0	5
Matsui, Kazuo	S/R	410	84	118	4	37	.288	29	4	9	1	8	.310	.357	0	1
Tulowitzki, Troy	R/R	609	104	177	24	99	.291	28	2	5	1	2	.179	.333	0	0
<b>OUTFIELDERS</b>																
Baker, Jeff	R/R	144	17	32	4	12	.222	3	0	2	0	1	.667	Did not play		
Hawke, Brad	L/L	516	80	150	29	116	.291	23	3	7	0	2	.304	.250	1	3
Holliday, Matt	R/R	636	120	216	36	173	.340	28	5	8	4	7	.286	.385	1	2
Smith, Seth	L/L	8	4	5	0	0	.625	4	2	2	0	2	.500	Did not pitch		
Spilborghs, Ryan	R/R	264	40	79	11	51	.299	10	3	3	0	0	.300	.091	0	0
Sullivan, Cory	L/L	140	19	40	2	14	.286	3	0	1	0	0	.333	Did not play		
Morales, Franklin	L	3-2	0	39.1	34	14	26	3.43	0-0	0	7/0	8	3	5	5.14	
Taveras, Willy	R/R	3-1	0	18.0	20	8	13	4.00	0-0	1	2.1	1	0	1	0.00	
Totals		5671	860	1591	171	823	.280	236	34	57	7	32	.242	.178	3	18

PITCHERS	P	2007 REGULAR SEASON							2007 POSTSEASON							'07 VS. RED SOX				
		W-L	Sv	IP	H	BB	SO	ERA	W-L	Sv	IP	H	BB	SO	ERA	W-L	IP	ERA		
Affeldt, Jeremy	L	4-3	0	59.0	47	33	46	3.51	0-0	0	2.1	1	0	2	3.86	0-0	0.1	0.00		
Cook, Aaron	R	8-7	0	166.0	178	44	61	4.12	Did not pitch									0-0	1.1	0.00
Corpas, Manny	R	4-2	19	78.0	63	20	58	2.08	1-0	5	8.2	5	0	6	1.04	0-0	5.0	3.60		
Fogg, Josh	R	10-9	0	165.2	194	59	94	4.94	2-0	0	8.0	8	1	4	1.13	1-0	5.0	3.60		
Francis, Jeff	L	17-9	0	215.1	234	63	165	4.22	2-0	0	12.2	11	3	12	2.13	1-0	5.0	0.00		
Fuentes, Brian	L	3-5	20	61.1	46	23	56	3.08	1-0	0	6.0	9	3	10	4.50	0-0	1.0	0.00		
Hawkins, LaTroy	R	2-5	0	55.1	52	16	29	3.42	0-0	0	3.0	1	1	1	0.00	0-0	1.2	0.00		
Herges, Matt	R	5-1	0	48.2	34	15	30	2.96	1-0	0	3.2	1	1	2	0.00	Did not pitch				
Jimenez, Ubaldo	R	4-4	0	82.0	70	37	68	4.28	0-0	0	11.1	9	8	11	1.59	Did not pitch				
Morales, Franklin	L	3-2	0	39.1	34	14	26	3.43	0-0	0	7/0	8	3	5	5.14	Did not pitch				
Spears, Ryan	R	3-1	0	18.0	20	8	13	4.00	0-0	1	2.1	1	0	1	0.00	Did not pitch				
Totals		90-73	39	1472	1497	504	967	4.32	7-0	6	65.0	52	20	54	2.08	2-1	26.0	1.73		

### BOSTON RED SOX

CATCHERS	B/T	2007 REGULAR SEASON					2007 POSTSEASON					'07 VS. ROCKIES				
		AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG.	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG.	HR	RBI	
Mirabella, Doug	R/R	114	9	23	5	16	.202	2	0	0	0	0	.000	.000	0	0
Varitek, Jason	S/R	435	57	111	17	68	.255	37	4	9	1	5	.243	.500	0	0
<b>INFELDERS</b>																
Cora, Alex	L/R	207	30	51	3	18	.246	0	0	0	0	0	—	.250	0	0
Hinske, Eric	L/R	186	25	38	6	21	.204	1	1	0	0	0	.000	—	0	0
Lowell, Mike	R/R	589	79	191	21	120	.324	36	4	12	1	11	.333	.385	1	2
Lugo, Julio	R/R	570	71	135	8	73	.237	35	5	8	0	2	.229	.182	0	0
Ortiz, David	L/L	549	116	182	35	117	.332	31	12	12	3	6	.387	.400	0	0
Pedroia, Dustin	R/R	520	86	165	8	50	.317	42	10	12	1	6	.286	.222	0	0
Youkilis, Kevin	R/R	528	85	152	16	83	.288	40	13	17	4	9	.425	.308	0	1
<b>OUTFIELDERS</b>																
Crisp, Coco	S/R	526	85	141	6	60	.268	31	2	5	0	2	.161	.200	0	0
Drew, J.D.	L/R	466	84	126	11	64	.270	36	6	11	1	9	.306	.000	0	1
Ellsbury, Jacoby	L/L	116	20	41	3	18	.353	9	4	2	0	1	.222	Did not play		
Kielty, Bobby	S/R	87	10	19	1	12	.218	5	1	2	0	2	.400	Did not play		
Ramirez, Manny	R/R	483	84	143	20	88	.296	30	8	12	4	14	.400	.333	0	1
Totals		5589	867	1561	166	829	.279	335	70	102	15	67	.304	.257	1	5

PITCHERS	P	2007 REGULAR SEASON							2007 POSTSEASON							'07 VS. ROCKIES		
		W-L	Sv	IP	H	BB	SO	ERA	W-L	Sv	IP	H	BB	SO	ERA	W-L	IP	ERA
Beckett, Josh	R	20-7	0	200.2	189	40	194	3.27	3-0	0	23	13	1	26	1.17	0-1	5.0	10.80
Delcarmen, Manny	R	0-0	1	44.0	28	17	41	2.05	0-0	0	3.0	4	2	4	9.00	Did not pitch		
Gagne, Eric	R	4-2	16	52.0	49	21	51	3.81	0-1	0	3.1	4	2	5	8.10	Did not pitch		
Lester, Jon																		