THE BIG TITLE: The NL West champion Dodgers and NL East champion Mets meet in Game 3 of the National League Division Series tonight in the first postseason game in Citi Field history. In nine previous best-of-five Division Series, the Dodgers have only tied 1-1 after two games twice, winning their series in four games over the Braves in 2013 and advancing to the Cardinals in four games in 2014. Overall, the Dodgers have played in 14 best-of-five postseason series (also five NLCS) and have won three of five series after being tied at a game apiece.

The Dodgers went 2-1 in a four-game series at Citi Field during their only visit to New York in July and have won 10 of their last 12 games in Queens dating to May 29, 2011.

On this date in 1988, the Dodgers rallied for six runs in the first two innings and Orel Hershiser struck out five in a five-hit shutout as Los Angeles blanked the Mets, 6-0, in Game 7 of the NLCS. The 1988 Dodgers went on to beat the A’s in the World Series for the franchise’s sixth title. It was the first postseason meeting between the Mets and Dodgers, who also faced off in the 2006 NLDS, a 3-0 New York sweep.

BEST IN THE WEST: The Dodgers went 92-70 in the regular season as the club claimed its third consecutive and 14th overall National League West title, marking the first time in franchise history that the team reached the postseason in four seasons. The Dodgers are making their second six‑postseason appearance in the last 10 years and are playing “October Baseball” for the 29th time in franchise history (20th time in L.A.).

The Dodgers have won three division titles in their five seasons under Manager Don Mattingly. Los Angeles has gone 446-563 (.440) under Mattingly, the sixth‑most wins of any Dodger manager in franchise history.

Los Angeles reached the postseason in its first season under the leadership of President of Baseball Operations Andrew Friedman and General Manager Farhan Zaidi. Friedman previously reached the postseason four times in nine seasons as Tampa Bay’s GM, including two division titles (2008, 2010).

The Dodgers surpassed 90 wins for the third consecutive season, a feat that had only previously been accomplished twice in franchise history: 1976-78 (3) and 1951-56 (6). Los Angeles has a league‑best 383 runs scored, 673 hits, 224 home runs, 10.1 runs scored per nine innings and has 13 RBI in 14 games (regular and postseason) against his former teammates, while overall ranking among the NL regular‑season leaders (min. 200 G) in batting average (.314, 2nd), on‑base percentage (.384, 6th) and slugging percentage (.492, 10th).

It should come as no surprise that Adrian Gonzalez, who has led the Dodgers in RBI in each of his nine full seasons with the club, knocked in the game‑winning run on Saturday night with a two‑out, two‑run double in the seventh inning. Gonzalez’s clutch hit in Game 2 came after he had struck out in each of his first three at‑bats, marking the first time in the postseason history (since 1920 when RBI became an official statistic) that a player drove in a game‑winning run with an extra‑base hit after striking out at least three times prior to that hit (Source: Elias Sports Bureau).

The duo has driven in three of the club’s six runs in this series. Los Angeles has 13 RBI in 20 career postseason trips, including three with 21 RBI in 15 career playoff games and is only two home runs behind the NL West Champions. Mets NL East Champions

All-Time Reg. Season: LA leads series, 236-214 (12-10 at Citi Field)

All-Time Postseason: LA trails, 5-7 (0-0 at Citi Field)

2015 NLDS: 3 losses, 4-1 (2-1 at LA, 1-1 at Citi Field, 0-2 in NLDS)

July 3 @ LA: L, 1-2 W: Rosales L: Jansen S:Familia

July 4 @ LA: W, 4-3 W: Greinke L: Harvey S: Howell

July 5 @ LA: L, 6-4 W: Matz L: Bolsinger

2016 NLDS Game 1: W, 4-3 W: deGrom L: Harvey S: Familia

The Dodgers rank 13th in the NL with 8.79 WHIP.

The Dodgers also ranked among the Major League leaders in strikeouts (1,396, 3rd), WHIP (1.18, 3rd), strikeout‑to‑walk ratio (3.85, 3rd), ERA (3.35, 2nd), opponents’ batting average (.242, 5th) and home runs allowed (145, 4th). Los Angeles was held without a home run through its first two postseason games after topping the NL in 21 of 24 games in the regular season. It marked the most homers for a Dodger team since 2004 (203 HR). Dodger rookies combined to contribute 51 of those home runs, establishing a club rookie record (previous high: 46, 1958 & 1960) – Source: Stats, LLC.

The Dodgers will make the first start of his career tonight and allowed just two hits in 6.0 scoreless innings in his only previous postseason start, Oct. 9, 2012, ALDS Game 3, Athletics vs. the Tigers.

MLB ERA titleholder Zack Greinke and Clayton Kershaw combined to go 35-10 with a 1.90 ERA (96 ER/455.1 IP) in 65 regular‑season starts, with the Dodgers going 43-22 in those games. The duo’s 1.90 combined ERA was the lowest by a set of teammates with a minimum of 25 starts since 1968, when three‑team sets of teammates combined for lower marks: Ray Washburn/ Bob Gibson of the Cardinals (1.59), Luis Tiant/Sam McDowell of the Indians (1.71) and Bob Gibson/Nellie Briles of the Cardinals (1.87) – Source: Elias Sports Bureau.

EXPERIENCE COUNTS: Chase Utley (48 career postseason games) and Jimmy Rollins (47 career postseason games) have the most postseason experience on the Dodger roster and are also the only two Los Angeles players to win a World Series title, doing so with Philadelphia in 2008. In addition to their veteran experience, the Dodgers are also relying heavily on postseason first‑timers Yimi Garcia, Chris Hatcher, Yasmani Grandal, Kiké Hernandez, Joe Pederson, Justin Ruggiano and Corey Seager.

In the regular season, Rollins leads active players with 281 hits against New York, batting .280 (281-1048) with 33 home runs and 222 RBI in 247 games, while Utley places second among active players with both 184 hits and 35 home run.
Last season start on Oct. 9, 2012 as a member of the A's, allowing just two hits in 6.0 scoreless innings and striking out six, recording the win in the A's 2-0 victory over the Detroit Tigers.

Last Game: 1 vs. NYM, 4-0, 1B, K, H, Strikeout...

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