



The Cubs need a performance like that of Guy Bush in the '29 season.

Don't Stop Believin'

*Posted by Paul Ladewski
Friday, October 3rd, 2008*

The gloom-and-doomers will tell you that the Cubs can't possibly dig out of a 2-0 hole against the Los Angeles Dodgers in their division series, but there is one brave soul who will tell you why they *can* pull it off . . .

- In the 1929 World Series, the Cubs faced a similar predicament against the Philadelphia Athletics after they dropped the first two games at Wrigley Field. In Game 3 at Shibe Park, [Guy Bush](#) went the distance on a nine-hitter, [Kiki Cuyler](#) delivered a clutch two-run single and the visitors took a 3-1 decision to make it a series again.
- Under the current playoff format, five teams overcame 2-0 deficits in best-of-five series. And the New York Yankees did the deed in the 2001 ALDS after they lost the first two games at home.
- In the 2004 ALCS, the Boston Red Sox beat the Yankees *four* times in a row to bounce back from a 2-0 deficit. And we all know which franchise broke an 86-year World Series championship drought that year, don't we?

- Manager **Lou Piniella** has been here, done this. Like these Cubs, his 2001 Seattle Mariners also had the most regular-season victories in the league before they dropped the first two games of the ALCS at home. In Game 3, the Mariners responded with a 14-3 blowout of the Yankees on the road.
- The baseball gods wouldn't possibly do *this* to Cubs broadcaster **Ron Santo**, would they?
- The Cubs will play better and more relaxed on the road, where they won't be under the microscope of local fans and media, and there's no better place than Los Angeles to do it.
- Loosely translated, **Fukudome** means "We got 'em where we want 'em" in Japanese.
- If any pitcher can put bats to sleep for an extended period, then Cubs righthander **Rich Harden** is the one. The scheduled Game 3 starter would have led the National League in ERA (1.57), WHIP (.97) and opponents' batting average (.177) had he enough innings to qualify.
- The North Siders are no strangers to three victories in a row. In the regular season, they put together 15 streaks of three-or-more wins.
- This group also knows how to deal with adversity. In the regular season, they totaled 44 come-from-behind victories, more than any team in the league.
- Four different Cubs infielders committed errors in the second game. It's out of their system now.
- When the Dodgers scored 10 runs in Game 2, it marked the first time since the Carter Administration that they reached double figures in a postseason game. It's out of their system, too.
- The Cubs have been outscored by a 17-5 margin in the series thus far. The Law of Averages is bound to have its say before long.
- At some point, Dodgers slugger Manny Ramirez will do something very strange that's just Manny being Manny. Other than club pitches off the ground into the left-field seats, that is.
- Not one black cat has been seen near the Cubs dugout . . .
- And Steve Bartman hasn't been, either.

-END-