

This season marks the 25th and 50th anniversaries of the memorable 1984 Cubs and 1959 White Sox teams, respectively. Each week the Chicago Baseball Museum chronicles the significant events that took place at a similar time in their dramatic seasons.

Thirteen-oh! Cubs take NLCS lead, Padres don't have prayer

CHICAGO, Oct. 2 – Postseason baseball returned to the North Side for the first time since the 1945 season on Tuesday afternoon, and the Cubs couldn't have written a better script.

The sun shined brightly at Wrigley Field. The stands were packed. And the home team was as crisp as the autumn air.

The Cubs ambushed the San Diego Padres in Game 1 of their NLCS matchup, 13-0, a victory that the 36,282 fans in attendance wouldn't forget any time soon. Every starter hit safely in a 16-hit assault, while Rick Sutcliffe pitched seven strong innings to earn the victory.

How's this for openers? The Cubs had as many home runs (four) as their opponents had hits in the game.

Manager Jim Frey's team followed a familiar formula – stake the starting pitcher to an early lead, tack on a few runs in the middle innings then hand the ball to the bullpen late in the game.

No sooner had the sellout crowd settled in their seats than lead-off man Bobby Dernier hit a home run off Padres starter Eric Show for the first run of the game. Gary Mathews followed suit two batters later, and the route was on.

The Cubs added three runs in the third inning, which Sutcliffe started with a homer into the right-field bleachers. Before the smoke cleared, Leon Durham (RBI single) and Keith Moreland (sacrifice fly) plated two more runs.

Reliever Greg Harris was treated no better. In two innings he was rocked for eight runs, one of them on a Ron Cey homer, as Padres skipper Dick Williams allowed the pitcher take his lumps rather than burn out the bullpen early in the series.

Sutcliffe struggled with his control at times – he walked five batters -- but the Padres mounted only one serious threat. In the fourth inning, a bunt single and a pair of walks loaded the bases before Carmelo Martinez flied out.

Warren Brusstar pitched two scoreless innings in mop-up duty.

The Cubs will bid for a 2-0 lead on Wednesday afternoon, when Steve Trout is scheduled to oppose Mark Thurmond in a matchup of left-handers.

Eleven-oh! Klu clouts two, White Sox take Game 1 in rout

CHICAGO, Oct. 1 – The White Sox didn't just win their first World Series game since the 1919 season in front of a raucous crowd at Comiskey Park. On one memorable Thursday afternoon, 40 years of frustration came to a head on the South Side.

The White Sox didn't just win their first World Series game since the 1919 season. They jumped on the Los Angeles Dodgers early and didn't ease up until an 11-0 rout was in the books. The defeat was the worst ever for the Dodgers in the Fall Classic.

Hitless Wonders who?

The biggest bully of all was none other than big Ted Kluszewski, the pride of Argo. Kluszewski flexed his muscles for an RBI single and a pair of two-run home runs, all in the first four innings. The five RBI tied a World Series record.

Jim Landis also contributed three hits to an 11-hit attack in support of starter Early Wynn, who pitched seven innings to earn the victory.

In the third inning, the White Sox erupted for seven runs to break the game open while 48,013 hysterical fans roared their approval.

After one out, Nellie Fox singled and Landis followed with an RBI double. Kluszewski launched a homer into the right-field seats, which touched off thunderous ovation and chased Dodgers starter Roger Craig from the mound. When the next five batters also reached base, team owner Bill Veeck thought he was at the wrong ballpark.

One inning later, Kluszewski went deep again, this time against reliever Chuck Churn, as Landis (single) scored ahead of him.

The White Sox wasted no time to showcase their Go-Go offense in front of a national television audience.

In the first inning, Fox coaxed a one-out walk and advanced to third base on a Landis single. Kluszewski followed with a single that chased Fox home and sent Landis to third base. Sherm Lollar hit a fly ball that was deep enough to score a run.

After Wynn survived a shaky first inning, the veteran right-hander was in control the rest of the way.

Gerry Staley pitched two scoreless innings.

In Game 2, Bob Shaw will start for the White Sox on Friday afternoon. The Dodgers will send veteran Johnny Podres to the mound.