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Porter, Cardinals capture NL flag

ATLANTA (AP) — Catcher Darrell Porter, the most valuable player in St. Louis' three-game sweep to the National League pennant, says the Cardinals' failure to make the playoffs last year helped make the team NL champions this season.

"We experienced what it was like being in the race last year," Porter said of the team that had the second-best record during last season's strike-interrupted season. "We didn't handle it very well then. But it helped us this year and we played well down the stretch. There was not one moment when didn't feel we'd win."

Porter had five hits, three of them doubles, and five walks in the three-game sweep of the Atlanta Braves that the Cardinals completed with a 6-2 victory Sunday night.

It is the 13th NL pennant for St. Louis, which hosts the first two games of the World Series against the American League champion Milwaukee Brewers beginning Tuesday night (7:30 p.m., WMTV, Ch. 15).

NL playoffs

Wednesday's result
Atlanta at St. Louis, rain
Thursday's result
St. Louis 7, Atlanta 0
Friday's result
Atlanta at St. Louis, rain
Saturday's result
St. Louis 4, Atlanta 3
Sunday's result
St. Louis 6, Atlanta 2
(St. Louis wins best-of-five series, three games to none)

Rookie Willie McGee drove in three runs with a triple and home run and bullpen ace Bruce Sutter shut off an Atlanta rally to nail down the victory and St. Louis' first pennant since 1968. Both also were legitimate MVP candidates, but if you ask Porter, the award could have been divided up by the Cardinals' pitching staff. The Braves managed just one extra base hit in the three games.

"Give our pitchers credit," the catcher said. "They put the ball where we wanted it. We'll fare all right as long as our pitchers pitch the way they have for the last three weeks. We can play with anybody."

Manager Whitey Herzog, who came tantalizingly close to the Series in three playoff years with Kansas City — losing the American League crown each time to the New York Yankees — compared this Cardinal team with those Royal clubs.

"This is a younger club and I don't think it is as intelligent as those Kansas City teams. We played smarter baseball day-in, day-out with the Royals. But we've got Sutter. We didn't have that big guy in the bullpen over there."

Sutter was the winner in the second game of the playoff against the Braves and nailed down the pennant when Atlanta tried to come back from a 5-0 deficit Sunday night.

Joaquin Andujar, the National League's pitcher of the month in September when he won five games and had a 0.80 earned run average, throttled the Braves on just two hits over the first six innings. But he tired in the seventh, surrendering both Braves' runs on four hits before Sutter, who led the league with 36 saves, came on to nail down the victory and the pennant for the Cardinals.

The Cardinals gave Andujar a comfortable early cushion, knocking out Atlanta starter Rick Camp in the second with four quick runs in a rally started by Keith Hernandez, who led off with a single to left field.

Camp got two strikes on the next batter, Porter, but lost him, issuing a base on balls.

When George Hendrick followed with a single to right, Hernandez dashed home with the game's first run. That brought pitching coach Bob Gibson to the mound for a word with Camp. The advice didn't do much good because McGee drilled the next pitch up the alley in right-center field, scoring Porter and Hendrick. The ball got to the wall on two bounces and McGee zipped into third with his second triple of the series.

On the next pitch, Ozzie Smith, who had three hits, singled to center, scoring McGee and giving the Cardinals a 4-0 lead.

That finished Camp and the Braves were faced with playing catch-up. But Andujar wouldn't let them come close.

Claudell Washington and Bob Horner opened the seventh with consecutive singles, but Andujar got Chris Chambliss to rap into a double play. One run scored on the play and when the Braves added another on hits by Dale Murphy and Glenn Hubbard — sandwiched around a wild pitch — Sutter came on to retire Bruce Benedict on a fly ball. He finished up, mowing the Braves down in the final two innings.

Game Three

ST. LOUIS	ab	r	h	bi	ATLANTA	ab	r	h	bi
Herr 2b	5	1	1	0	R. Ramirez ss	3	0	1	0
Oberkfell 3b	5	0	1	0	Royster lf	4	0	0	0
Lo. Smith lf	4	0	1	0	Washington rf	2	0	1	0
K. Hrnndez 1b	4	1	2	1	Harper rf	1	1	0	0
D. Porter c	3	1	1	0	Horner 3b	4	0	1	0
Hendrick rf	5	1	1	1	Chambliss 1b	4	0	0	0
McGee cf	5	2	2	3	Murphy cf	3	1	2	0
O. Smith ss	4	0	3	1	Hubbard 2b	3	0	1	1
Andujar p	1	0	0	0	Benedict c	3	0	0	0
Sutter p	1	0	0	0	Camp p	0	0	0	0
					Perez p	1	0	0	0
					Moore p	0	0	0	0
					Whisenton ph	1	0	0	0
					Mahler p	0	0	0	0
					Bedrosian p	0	0	0	0
					Butler ph	1	0	0	0
					Garber p	0	0	0	0
Totals	37	6	12	6	Totals	30	2	6	1

St. Louis	040	010	001	— 6
Atlanta	000	000	200	— 2

E — R. Ramirez. DP — St. Louis 3. LOB — St. Louis 11, Atlanta 3. 2B — Herr. 3B — McGee. HR — McGee (1). S — Andujar 2, Lo. Smith.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
StLouis						
Andujar W (1-0)	6⅔	6	2	2	2	4
Sutter S,1	2⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Atlanta						
Camp L (0-1)	1	4	4	4	1	0
Perez	3⅔	3	1	1	1	2
Moore	1⅓	1	0	0	0	0
Mahler	1⅔	3	0	0	2	0
Bedrosian	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
Garber	1	1	1	1	0	1

Camp pitched to five batters in the second.
WP — Andujar 2. BK — Andujar. T — 2:51. Att. — 52,173.

Cards savor their big moment

ATLANTA (AP) — The champagne flowed in the St. Louis dressing room after the Cardinals clinched the National League pennant Sunday night, but the mood was more sedate than one would expect for a team going to the World Series for the first time since 1968.

"It's a big moment for us but this team doesn't get too high," said Cards' shortstop Ozzie Smith after St. Louis whipped the Atlanta Braves, 6-2, to complete a three-game sweep of their best-of-five series.

The Cardinals now face the Milwaukee Brewers for the world championship, starting Tuesday in St. Louis.

"We've kept it on an even keel all season," said Smith, who got three hits in the clinching victory. "We never got too high or to low."

"That's the way we've been all year," said third baseman Ken Oberkfell. "There's still one more step and if we get that I'm sure you'll see a lot of excitement."

The Cards broke the game open in the second inning, scoring four times off starter Rick Camp with run-scoring singles by George Hendrick and Smith and a two-run triple by Willie McGee, who also homered in the ninth inning.

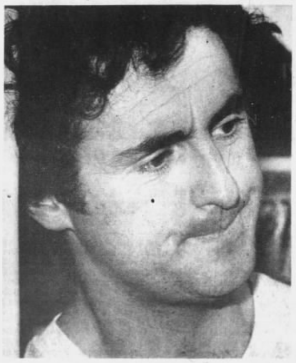
"It's great," said McGee. "I had a nightmare game yesterday but I tried to stay positive," said the center fielder, who struck out three times against Phil Niekro in St. Louis' 4-3 victory Saturday night.

"Ozzie Smith told me to keep my head up and in the game today I'd probably come up with a chance to win the game," said McGee, who drank a beer while his teammates were dousing each other with champagne.

Winning pitcher Joaquin Andujar, who allowed six hits and both Atlanta runs in 6⅔ innings, hugged ace reliever Bruce Sutter, who set down the Braves the rest of the way and told Sutter "I told you I wouldn't let you down."

And so it will be the Cardinals making their 13th World Series appearance, while the Braves can think back on a successful season and start thinking on ways to go all the way in 1983.

Drenched in champagne, Harvey Kuenn savors victory …



… while Fred Lynn of Angels reflects his disappointment.

— AP Laserphotos

Edwards catches limelight

By John Hughes
and Bill Brophy
State Journal sports reporters

MILWAUKEE — Marshall Edwards on Sunday became the latest in a long line of minor characters who played a major role in the Milwaukee Brewers' American League pennant victory.

Edwards made his contribution as a replacement for Gorman Thomas in center field in the eighth inning of Sunday's 4-3 title-clinching victory.

With one out, California's Don Baylor, who had already driven in 10 runs in the five-game series, banged a drive off Milwaukee pitcher Bob McClure that appeared to have a chance to reach the center field bleachers for a game-tying home run.

Edwards raced back, leaped and caught the ball as he crashed into the fence.

As it turned out, the ball would not have left the park, but even if it had gone for a double, Baylor would undoubtedly have scored on Doug DeCinces' single which followed.

Thomas was out because he had been limping on a left leg he injured sliding into home the day before. Had he been in center field for Baylor's drive he probably wouldn't have been able to get to it, running on a bad wheel.

Edwards said he is always prepared to play in situations like that.

"I feel almost like a pilot who checks his flight plan every day," he said. "Every day I come to the park I check the training room to see who's hurt."

Coming in cold to play in the most important game of the season might cause some players to pray 'Don't hit anything to me.' Edwards said it wasn't so with him.

"If you think that way, you're not going to be in this game very long," he said.

"I was nervous, naturally, because I'm a human being," he said. "But I try to overcome my nervousness by thinking about what I have to do."

Brewer notes

California outfielder Fred Lynn, who tied a record for most hits in a league championship series, was named the most valuable player in the American League Championship Series.

Lynn went 11-for-18 in the series, an average of of .611, with five RBIs. His hit total tied Chris Chambliss, then of the New York Yankees, for the record.

Brewer Manager Harvey Kuenn wasn't too crazy about the selection. Kuenn's choice? Reliever Pete Ladd, who has saves in Games Three and Five.

•

The Brewers didn't seem to care who they played in the World Series, although Ted Simmons, who came from the St. Louis Cardinals in a trade in the winter of 1980, admitted he wouldn't mind going home to St. Louis.

"I have a lot of friends on that team," Simmons said. "And it would be nice to sleep in my own bed, drive the kids to school and then come home and relax before going to the ballpark."

California Manager Gene Mauch was asked how he thought the Brewers would do in the Series.

"A lot of that depends on their left-handed pitching — if St. Louis wins," said Mauch, who still hasn't earned a pennant in 22 years of managing in the big leagues. "I think (Mike) Caldwell and (Bob) McClure have to make big contributions, if it's St. Louis."

Kuenn would not name his starter for Game One of the World Series, but said he was leaning toward Caldwell.

The Brewers will fly to St. Louis this morning.

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Records: The 12 errors by the two teams was an all-time high in the LCS. The attendance of 54,968 moved the total attendance in the five game series to 284,691, an LCS record.

Reggie Jackson, "Mr. October," finished the series two-for-18 (a .111 average) with one homer and three RBIs.

Milwaukee's Thomas, who played the first seven innings on a sore knee, finished the playoffs one-for-15 (.067). Thomas is hitless in his last 14 at-bats. He has just one hit in his last 30 at-bats and is three-for-43 since hitting his 39th homer of the season two weeks ago. Thomas is expected to be ready to play Tuesday in Game One of the World Series.

Former Manager Buck Rodgers sent the Brewers a telegram Saturday, wishing them well in the final two games and the message was posted in the clubhouse.

AL championship series

COMPOSITE BOXSCORE
TEAM BATTING
Milwaukee

	ab	r	h	2b	3b	hr	rbi	avg
Mark Brouhard lf	4	4	3	1	0	1	3	.750
Charlie Moore rf	13	3	6	0	0	0	0	.461
Paul Molitor 3b	19	3	6	1	0	2	5	.316
Robin Yount ss	16	1	4	0	0	0	0	.250
Jim Gantner 2b	16	1	3	0	0	0	2	.187
Don Money dh	11	2	2	0	0	0	1	.182
Ted Simmons c	18	3	3	0	0	0	1	.167
Cecil Cooper 1b	20	1	3	2	0	0	4	.150
Ben Oglivie lf	15	1	2	0	0	1	1	.133
Gorman Thomas cf	15	1	1	0	0	1	3	.067
Roy Howell dh	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Marshall Edwards pr-cf	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Totals	151	23	33	4	0	5	20	.218

California

	ab	r	h	2b	3b	hr	rbi	avg
Ron Jackson ph	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1.000
Fred Lynn cf	18	4	11	2	0	1	5	.611
Doug DeCinces 3b	19	5	6	2	0	0	0	.316
Don Baylor dh	17	2	5	1	1	1	10	.294
Bob Boone c	16	3	4	0	0	1	4	.250
Bobby Grich 2b	15	1	3	1	0	0	1	.200
Rod Carew 1b	17	2	3	1	0	0	0	.176
Brian Downing lf	19	4	3	1	0	0	0	.158
Tim Foli ss	16	0	2	0	0	0	1	.125
Reggie Jackson rf	18	2	2	0	0	1	2	.111
Rob Wilfong pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Juan Beniquez lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Brian Clark rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Totals	156	23	40	8	1	4	23	.256

TEAM PITCHING
Milwaukee

	g	ip	h	r	er	bb	so	era
Dwight Bernard	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Pete Ladd	3	3⅓	0	0	0	0	5	0.00
Bob McClure (1-0)	1	1⅔	2	0	0	0	0	0.00
Don Sutton (1-0)	1	7⅔	8	3	3	2	9	3.52
Jim Slaton	2	4⅔	3	2	2	1	2	3.85
Pete Vuckovich (0-1)	2	14⅓	15	7	7	7	8	4.40
Moose Haas (1-0)	1	7⅓	5	5	4	5	7	4.91
Mike Caldwell (0-1)	1	3	7	6	5	1	2	15.00
Totals	5	43	46	24	22	16	33	4.60

California

	g	ip	h	r	er	bb	so	era
Andy Hassler	2	2⅔	0	0	0	0	2	0.00
Bruce Kison (1-0)	2	14	8	4	3	3	12	1.93
Tommy John (1-1)	2	12⅓	11	9	7	6	6	5.10
Mike Witt	1	3	2	2	2	2	3	6.00
Luis Sanchez (0-1)	2	2⅔	4	2	2	1	1	6.74
Dave Goltz	1	3⅔	4	3	3	2	2	7.36
Geoff Zahn (0-1)	1	3⅔	4	3	3	1	2	7.36
Totals	5	42	33	23	20	15	28	4.29

Score by innings

Milwaukee	151	721	420	— 23
California	226	411	070	— 23

E — DeCinces, Cooper, Oglivie 2; Caldwell, Molitor, Lynn, Yount 1. DP — Milwaukee 6, California 3. LOB — Milwaukee 24, California 29. SB — Carew (1), Edwards (1), Molitor (1). S — Boone, Moore 2; Foli, Downing, Grich 1. SF — Baylor, Boone, Thomas, Money, Simmons. HBP — by Vuckovich (Grich), by John (Moore), by Zahn (Oglivie). WP — John 3. PB — Boone. Att. — 229,723.

Phoenix drops Milwaukee

PHOENIX, Ariz. (AP) — Rookie forward Rory White combined with veteran guard Kyle Macy for 15 fourth-quarter points as the Phoenix Suns rallied to beat the Milwaukee Bucks, 117-114, Sunday night in a National Basketball Association exhibition game.

With Phoenix trailing, 87-80, after three quarters, Macy scored five points in a 50-second span to tie the game and White promptly put the Suns ahead on an ensuing steal and lay-in.

The lead exchanged hands four times before Macy and White keyed a 14-4 string for a 111-102 Phoenix lead with 2:30 remaining.

The Suns withstood two three-point goals by Buck guard Robert Smith in the final minute to improve their exhibition record to 2-0.

Milwaukee was making its preseason debut with forward-center Dave Cowens playing his first NBA game after two years of inactivity. Cowens finished with four points and four fouls in limited playing time.

White wound up with 15 points for Phoenix, while Walt Davis had 16, Maurice Lucas 14 and Macy 12.

Sidney Moncrief scored 13 of his game-high 20 points in the first half as the Bucks grabbed a 55-52 lead at intermission.

Phoenix led, 30-29, after the first period behind Davis' nine-point effort.

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