



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	R	H	E
BOSTON	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	9	0
STL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	0

RED SOX LEAD SERIES, 3-0 Martinez (W 2-1), Suppan (L 2-2)

D

**Game 4 tonight**  
at Busch Stadium  
Lowe (2-0) vs. Marquis (0-0)  
8:25, Channel 25

# World Series

THE BOSTON GLOBE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2004

# Magic number: 1

Vintage Martinez performance puts Red Sox on the brink of a world championship



GLOBE STAFF PHOTO/JIM DAVIS

## Shutdown starter

Pedro Martinez (above) set down the last 14 batters he faced after the Cardinals had put runners on second and third with none out in the third inning.

3D INNING		4TH INNING			5TH INNING			6TH INNING			7TH INNING		
Walker GO DP	Pujols GO to third	Rolen GO to third	Edmonds FO center	Sanders K swinging	Womack K swinging	Matheny PO short	Anderson PO third	Renteria GO second	Walker LO second	Pujols K swinging	Rolen GO first	Edmonds K swinging	Sanders K swinging

## On baseball

GORDON EDES

## If it's twilight, he was gleaming

ST. LOUIS — Not all of his teammates were happy with Pedro Martinez last night. Or maybe you didn't notice Derek Lowe, waiting at the top step of the visitors' dugout, after Martinez struck out looking to start the third inning.

"I shook his bat, to see if I could wake it up," Lowe said. "I've never seen a guy take four fastballs right down the middle without moving his bat."

Given the appalling baserunning error Cardinals pitcher Jeff Suppan made in the bottom of the inning — when he somehow ran himself into a double play from third when the Sox all but offered him an escort to home — it was just as well that Martinez

kept his bat on his shoulder.

Besides, the way he pitched last night, setting down the last 14 Cardinal batters he faced, with only Jim Edmonds's harmless fly to center leaving the infield, there was no need to embellish another stirring stanza to the ballad of Pedro, a song that is likely to be sung for generations to come.

So, was this 98-pitch silencing of the most fearsome lineup in the National League (two infield hits, Edgar Renteria's third-inning double, and two walks in seven scoreless innings), spun by Martinez in his Series debut, the crowning achievement of a career whose greatest moments

ON BASEBALL, Page D4



GLOBE STAFF PHOTO/JOHN BOHN

Manny Ramirez receives the traditional home run greeting from David Ortiz after his first-inning blast to left gets the Red Sox off and running.

By Bob Hohler  
GLOBE STAFF

**Red Sox 4** ST. LOUIS — A day after the 18th anniversary of Bill Buckner's fateful error in Game 6 of the 1986 World Series, the Red Sox knew they were battling history as well as the Cardinals last night, even as the folks back home planned a historic victory parade.

"Every time I see that ground ball rolling through the guy's legs, I turn the channel," first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz said. "I don't want to see that. It plays in your mind."

After all, the Sox seized a 2-0 lead on the road against the Mets in the '86 Series before misery befell them in seven games after Buckner's blunder. And the last thing Terry Francona's dream-chasers wanted to do after going up, 2-0, in the 2004 Series was give the Cardinals a chance to tarnish another fine Boston player's legacy. As deposed manager Grady Little said after last year's disastrous finish against the Yankees in the American League Championship Series, some of his players feared becoming the next Buckner.

Fear not. Hardball heaven is one step away after Pedro Martinez and the Sox exploited the blundering Cardinals and banked a 4-1 victory before 52,015 at Busch Stadium to build a 3-0 cushion in the 100th Fall Classic. Derek Lowe could deliver the Sox to the pearly

RED SOX, Page D12

## One team is blessed while the other commits Cardinal sins



ST. LOUIS — Let's take the Bud Collins approach and say that, for the Red Sox, it is now triple match point.

They are one victory away from doing what people have been talking about for longer than most people in New England have been alive. The scary thing is how easy it all looks.

Since the score was tied at 9-9 entering the eighth inning of Game 1 last Saturday, the Red Sox have been a vastly better team than the St. Louis

BOB RYAN

Cardinals. Mark Bellhorn hit the Pesky Pole, and ever since the Red Sox have played like a team, well, blessed. The few mistakes they have made haven't cost them. They have been bulletproof and pressure-proof. It is as if they are attempting to undo all 86 years of frustration in one week.

They have exposed the Cardinals for what they are — a great offensive and defensive team trying to win a

championship with a mediocre group of starters. They are the late 1990s Indians revisited, and I trust you know how many championships that team won.

Here is the line for the three St. Louis starters in this series: 11 1/3 innings, 20 hits, 15 runs, 15 earned runs, 8 walks, and 8 strikeouts.

And here are the combined lines for Curt Schilling and Pedro Martinez in Games 2 and 3: 13 IP, 7 H, 1 R, 0 ER, 3 BB, 10 K.

Game 1 was the aberration, and we all knew it. The

RYAN, Page D2

### MORE ON THE WORLD SERIES

**Planets aligning**  
All signs seem to be pointing toward success for Red Sox. Shaughnessy, **A1**

**Bubbling over**  
Optimism has reached an all-time high with series lead. MacMullan, **D2**

**Good start**  
Ramirez leads the way with two RBIs, including a first-inning homer. **D7**

### ALSO IN SPORTS



**Steady hand**  
Belichick raves about staying power of Steelers coach Cowher. **D13.**

**Head game**  
Rivers knows he must get his Celtics to play in more controlled way. **D13.**

RED BLUE YELLOW BLACK