

# Pirates surprise Murtaugh and Baltimore in third Series game

By MIKE RATHET  
Associated Press Sports Writer  
PITTSBURGH (AP)—Steve Blass surprised Pittsburgh Manager Danny Murtaugh with a three-

hitter and Bob Robertson stunned him by swinging through a bunt sign for a three-run homer as the Pirates defeated the Orioles 5-1 in the third game of the World Series.

It all seemed to leave Murtaugh so happily dazed that when he walked into the winner's dressing room he quipped: "I was beginning to think you all didn't have a room like this."

For two days it had appeared as if the cigar-chomping Irishman never would get there, but Blass turned Baltimore's lethal bats into toothpicks with a three-hitter that ended the Orioles' amazing season-ending winner streak at 16. Dave Cash scored Pittsburgh's

first run, Jose Pagan drove in the second and Robertson cracked his homer. But the day belonged to Blass.

And he left no doubt as to how he felt about his performance. Asked if it was the best he had pitched all year, Blass shot back: "How about in my life?"

Robertson, who shared the hero's spotlight with Blass, said he didn't know he had swung through a bunt sign on his seventh inning homer until he crossed the plate and was greeted by "Atta way to bunt the ball," Stargell told him.

The homer made it 5-1, giving Blass some additional working room as he bounced back with an overpowering performance after being shelled from the mound in two National League playoff starts.

And he did it against a Baltimore team that had mauled Pittsburgh pitching for 24 hits and 16 runs in the two previous games.

The 29-year-old right-hander kept the Orioles completely off balance with an assortment of blazing fast balls and roundhouse curves and held them scoreless until Frank Robinson homered in

the seventh.

That trimmed Pittsburgh's lead to 2-1, but it was the only time the Orioles were able to break through against Blass, a 6-foot, 170-pounder regarded as one of the easiest-going members of the Pirates.

And he probably couldn't help smiling when his teammates, mocked for their inability to find

a crack among the Orioles' 20-game winners during two defeats in Baltimore, put it away against left-hander Mike Cuellar on Robertson's three-run homer in the bottom of the seventh.

Blass, who had a no-hitter working until Brooks Robinson singled with one out in the fifth, thus made something of prophet of Pittsburgh Manager Danny

Murtaugh. Murtaugh had warned against counting the Pirates out until they returned to their home base at Three Rivers Stadium.

The triumph also underscored the critical nature of Wednesday night's fourth game—the first World Series night game in history. Baltimore's fourth 20-game winner, Pat Dobson, will go in that one against Luke Walker, 10-8 during the regular season. But it is doubtful that more attention could be focused on one man than was focused on Blass in this one. For even as he checked the Orioles they weren't out of it until Robertson's blast in the seventh inning.

After a shaky start, Cuellar seemed to have as much control of the situation as Blass.

But Cuellar threw wildly to first on Roberto Clemente's lead-off grounder. Then Willie Stargell walked on four pitches and Robertson tagged a drive over the 385-foot mark in right center field.

That made it 5-1, and all Blass had to do was coast the rest of the way. But just as he had done after Robinson's home, his sixth hit and second homer of the series, he bore down.

Blass stifled any thought of Baltimore bounce-back by striking out Ellie Hendricks and Brooks Robinson and getting Dave Johnson on a soft grounder. He went back to work in the eighth and got the Orioles 1-0. He took a standing ovation from a crowd of 50,403 when he came to bat in the Pirates' half of the eighth, and then went out to the mound in the ninth to finish the game. He struck out Merv Rettenmund leading off, got Powell a long fly to center and surrendered a single to his tormentor, Frank Robinson. He then he ended it by getting Hendricks on a one-hopper to second baseman Cash.

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THE RUGBY CLUB of A&M is shown in action against St. Edwards, with Don Barr (solid jersey) fighting for the ball. The Aggies won, 47-6, for their eighteenth straight victory of the season.

## Aggies bombard Austin team in rugby match last Saturday

Playing at Austin Saturday, the A&M Rugby Club's 'A' team rolled to its 18th consecutive victory this year, whipping St. Edwards, 47-6.

The Aggies were not up to their usual smooth running game, probably due to the absence of five key players, but were sufficiently in command to rout the inexperienced St. Edwards team.

St. Edwards, while being defeated, never gave up, and there were solid attempts to stop A&M and counter attack. However, their tackles were generally aimed too high and the powerful running Aggies frequently broke through. When St. Edwards did start an attack, it was sufficiently stifled by the quick covering A&M backs, particularly George McCarroll at stand-off half.

Scoring for the Aggies were Captain John Gunn with a penalty goal (3 points) and four conversions (8 points), George McCarroll with three tries (12 points) and Don Barr, Mark Anthony, Gary Junot, Giles Fort, Rick Jones and Randy Harju with a try (4 points) apiece.

The Aggie 'B' team also played at Austin against the 'A' team of the Austin Gold Rugby Club. After starting well, the Aggies were unable to cope with this more experienced team, and were beaten 36-6.

Lack of experience caused poor individual positioning by A&M, thus allowing the Austin back line more running room than they should have had. These backs, who would be impressive anywhere, took their advantage with both hands, racking up an impressive total against the hard fighting A&M team.

Scoring for the Aggies were Michael Huslage with a try (4 points), and Bruce Mills with a conversion (2 points).

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