## NL series returns to Atlanta

ATLANTA (AP) — At last, the lanta Braves and New York Mets sted. Who could blame them? The teams dragged into Atlanta sterday, still feeling the after-tocks of one of the greatest post-uson games in baseball history.

An NL Championship Series at looked like a blowout just a uple of days ago is now up for its. Sure, the Braves have a 3-2 and the next two games at me, if needed. But New York is img a wave of emotion after its inning, 4-3 victory in Game 5

Iday night.

"It's a team that obviously doesquit," third baseman Robin Venasaid, whose grand slam-single ded at least two more days to the asseason. "It just seems like this mersponds to dire situations."

Neither team worked out Mong, choosing to rest up for Game onight night at Turner Field.

For the Mets, it was a time to

for the Mets, it was a time to tel in their improbable victory enight before at Shea Stadium. I the Braves, it was a chance forcet

"Nobody is too down, nobody is too up," insisted Kevin Millwood, who will start Game 6 for Atlanta. "I think everybody is just preparing for tomorrow."

The Braves were three outs from reaching the World Series for the first time since 1996 after Keith Lockhart's two-out, run-scoring triple in the top of the 15th broke a 2-2 tie. That was the first run scored in the game since the third inning.

"Nobody is too down, nobody is too up."

> — Kevin Millwood Braves pitcher

But the Mets evened the score in their half when Kevin McGlinchy walked three batters, including Todd Pratt with the bases loaded. Then, Ventura hit a pitch over the right-field wall for an apparent grand slam that became a run-scoring single when he was mobbed by his teammates before reaching second base.

While New York rocked, the game seemed to awaken Atlanta's listless baseball fans.

There were about 6,000 empty seats for the first two games of the series, but a sellout is expected in Game 6. The Braves sold some 6,000 tickets following Game 5 and had only 3,000 remaining.

It was the longest League Championship Series game by innings since the Mets needed 16 to beat Houston in the deciding game of the 1986 NL series. It was the longest postseason game by time ever, surpassing the 5-hour, 13-minute marathon between the New York Yankees and Seattle Mariners in Game 2 of a 1995 division series.

Whether the final score was 7-3 or 4-3 did not matter. New York became only the second team in playoff history to force a Game 6 after losing the first three games of a series.



## rairie View returning to old ways

PRAIRIE VIEW (AP) — They are still here. They still trying and they are still losing. The only difere is this season, hardly anyone notices.

The Prairie View Panthers were a weekly trivial estion last season when they were blazing toward nation's longest college football losing streak. The Panthers snapped the streak at 80 with a 14-victory over Langston on Sept. 26, 1998, and now by have returned to the anonymity of being weeklanderdogs in the NCAA Division I-AA Southwest-

Athletic Conference.
Their continued resiliency amazes interim coach

People always ask me 'how do you get them Colling and a down practice.

Ey come back week after week and they see the ion that one day it will happen."

The 1999 Panthers won their second game of the tade Sept. 11 with a 21-7 victory over Howard agreement will take a 1-5 record into Saturday's game at Blackshear Field against Panhandle State.

"lielt great to win that game," Gilliard said. "It gave

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we've just won one game they still have that belief.

"We are going for 5-5 now, that's the best we can

do and that's their goal."

Until their victory last season, Prairie View had not won a game since Oct. 28, 1989, when they beat Mississippi Valley 21-12.

Langston beat the Panthers 19-18 the following week to begin the long losing streak.

Talent and numbers keep the Panthers down. The school awards only 15 scholarships. Most of their opponents in the NCAA Division I-AA SWAC play with 65 scholarships.

The Panthers start games with fresh legs but by the fourth quarter, they are worn down.

"It's been that and it's still that," Gilliard said.
"That's what's haunting us right now. The only thing that will bring about change is a few more scholarships."

The Panthers have scored 43 points this season but only 13 in the second half. Alabama A&M scored late for a 27-3 victory.

Southern won 42-0, one of three shutouts against the Panthers this season.

## So, WHAT Do YOU Do?

Some people become scientists. Some balance budgets. Respectable professions no doubt. But Jim West opted for something a little different. He's a puppeteer. What does that mean? There's only one way to find out!



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