



# NEWS RELEASE



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**March 22, 2009**

**TEAM USA FALLS TO JAPAN, 9-4, IN WBC SEMIS**  
***Loss ends tournament for U.S., Japan to meet Korea in Monday's final***

**Japan (6-2) 9, USA (4-4) 4**

SP: Oswalt (L, 1-1) – 3.2 IP, 6 H, 6 R, 4 ER, 1 BB, 1 K, 66-39 pitches-strikes

WP: Matsuzaka (W, 3-0) – 4.2 IP, 5 H, 2 R, 2 ER, 3 BB, 4 K, 98-57

Team USA's run in the World Baseball Classic came to a halt Sunday night with a 9-4 loss to Japan. The U.S. was up 2-1 after three innings, but starter Roy Oswalt surrendered five runs in the fourth inning, giving Japan a four-run lead it would not relinquish. Jimmy Rollins led all Team USA hitters, going 4-for-4 with a run scored, and Mark DeRosa chipped in two RBI on a double in the eighth inning.

Box Score/Gameday – [http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/gameday/index.jsp?gid=2009\\_03\\_22\\_usaint\\_jpnt\\_1](http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/gameday/index.jsp?gid=2009_03_22_usaint_jpnt_1)

Recap –

[http://web.worldbaseballclassic.com/news/article.jsp?ymd=20090322&content\\_id=4049170&vkey=news\\_mlb&fext=.jsp&c\\_id=mlb%20&lang=1](http://web.worldbaseballclassic.com/news/article.jsp?ymd=20090322&content_id=4049170&vkey=news_mlb&fext=.jsp&c_id=mlb%20&lang=1)

**Team USA scoring:**

- **1<sup>st</sup> Inning – 1 run:** Brian Roberts hit a solo home run (1)
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Inning – 1 run:** David Wright's RBI-double (1) scored Jimmy Rollins
- **8<sup>th</sup> Inning – 2 runs:** Mark DeRosa's 2-run double (1) scored Ryan Braun and Brian McCann

**Manager Davey Johnson's Post-game Quotes:**

**On the game:** "I think that's the second time that I've been beaten by a Japanese team managing a U.S. team. The pitchers they threw out there, I thought they all threw the ball well. They threw a lot of strikes. We made a come-back on them, but when they had to answer, they answered, and added three more runs in the eighth. And I have to hand it to them, a very good team."

**SS/DH Jimmy Rollins' Post-game Quotes:**

**On the game:** "They were fundamentally sound. They took advantage of mistakes, didn't worry about trying to draw the ball out of the ballpark. And when you put the ball in play, you can find some holes. They definitely did that. They play with passion. We play with passion, but they just wear theirs on their sleeve."

Notes: 3B Evan Longoria joined Team USA on Friday afternoon and was available for Team USA on Sunday...he went 0-1 in a pinch-hit appearance...LF Ryan Braun was in the starting lineup for the first time in a week for the U.S....he was 1-4 at the plate...3B David Wright hosted U.S. Army Sgt. Felix Perez, his mother Marta Perez and stepfather Frank Torres...Perez, 27, is an injured Iraqi War veteran assigned to the 82nd Airborne...the Miami resident met Team USA following its dramatic 6-5 victory vs. Puerto Rico in Tuesday night's elimination game at Dolphin Stadium...the announced attendance for Sunday's USA/Japan game was 43,630...the second-largest attendance in WBC history and the most ever on U.S. soil...it also the total attendance number through 38 game to 746,562...topping the 2006 WBC total with one game still remaining.

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