

MLB Predictions: New York Mets vs Houston Astros

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MLB Predictions Preview …The New York Mets are trying to find winning form after losing two straight games to the Houston Astros over the weekend. Tonight's fourth game of the series is important as New York holds onto a slim half-game NL East Division lead over the Philadelphia Phillies. Starting for the Mets will be right hand ace Mike Pelfrey (12-8, 3.86 ERA). The Astros will counter Pelfrey and the Mets with righthander Brian Moehler (9-4, 3.87 ERA).

MLB Predictions Betting Line … Oddsmakers at online sportsbook Bodog (Bodoglife.com) currently have the Mets listed as -220 money line favorites versus the Astros, while the game's total is sitting at 8½. The Astros are getting +190 money line odds as a road underdog.

Pelfrey survived all nine innings Wednesday and held the Braves to three runs on three hits. After loading the bases in the sixth, Pelfrey maturely utilized the hard sink on his pitches to induce a key double play ball, limiting the inning's run total to two. Pelfrey said after the game that he was more efficient because he was marking the catcher's glove at precise locations rather than firing it in toward the plate, throwing 62 of his 108 pitches for strikes Wednesday. While he didn't face the Astros during the two teams' last encounter, he has struggled against them with a 6.32 ERA in 15 2/3 career innings.

Moehler earned his ninth win of the season in his last start, holding the Brewers to two runs (one earned) over 5 1/3 innings to extend his winning streak to five. The right-hander hasn't lost since July 4 and since then has logged five wins and three no-decisions. Moehler last faced the Reds in Cincinnati on Aug. 9, when he allowed one run over seven innings in a winning effort.

The Astros defeated the Mets 6-4 in 10 innings as a +200 underdog on Sunday. The 10 runs scored went OVER the posted over/under total (8.5).

Brad Ausmus and Darin Erstad each delivered a solo home run in the tenth inning for Houston, while Hunter Pence hit a two-run home run in the win.

Carlos Beltran was 2-3 with a home run and three RBI for the Mets and Fernando Tatis also had an RBI.

MLB Prediction … The Mets look good in this matchup. NY Mets -220 ML.