

Royals make it 9 against Red Sox

Yankees top Rays to regain lead as Padres edge Pirates

BOSTON, July 29, (AP): Salvador Perez and Mike Moustakas homered off emergency starter Rick Porcello, who took over when David Price went back on the disabled list with left elbow inflammation, and the Kansas City Royals beat Boston 4-2 Friday night for their season-high ninth straight win.



Perez

The Red Sox have lost five of six and nine of 14, dropping out of the AL East lead for the first time since June 29 and falling a half-game behind the New York Yankees.

Price began the season on the DL and didn't make his first start until May 29. The 31-year-old lefty, winner of the 2012 AL Cy Young Award, is 5-3 with a 3.82 ERA.

Porcello (4-14), who had been scheduled to pitch Saturday, leads the major leagues in loss-

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es, a year after winning the AL Cy Young. He allowed four runs and six hits in seven innings. Jason Vargas (13-4) gave up one run and five hits in six innings. Kelvin Herrera pitched a one-hit ninth for his 22nd save in 25 chances.

Rangers 8, Orioles 2

In Arlington, Texas, Adrian Beltré had two RBI singles to increase his hit total to 2,998. Elvis Andrus homered and Texas beat Baltimore.

Beltré, the 38-year-old third baseman in his 20th major league season, is on the brink of becoming only the 31st player in the 3,000-hit club.

Nomar Mazara hit three doubles for the Rangers.

Andrew Cashner (6-8) allowed only a solo homer by Jonathan Schoop in seven innings. Chris Tillman (1-6) allowed eight runs and nine hits in 4 1-3 innings.

Cardinals 1, Diamondbacks 0

In St. Louis, Arizona starter Robbie Ray was hit in the head by a line drive and driven off the field in a cart during the Diamondbacks' loss to St. Louis.

Ray was struck in the second inning by a liner off the bat of rookie Luke Voit. The ball caromed in the air into foul territory where third baseman Daniel Descalso caught it for the out.

Ray lay prone on the mound for several minutes before sitting up with his teammates surrounding him. He was taken off to be examined.

Michael Wacha pitched six innings and Jedd Gyorko drove in the lone run with one of his three hits.

Wacha (8-4) allowed three hits. He has won five of his last six starts and improved to 7-1 in 12 starts at Busch Stadium this season.

Trevor Rosenthal, the third reliever for St. Louis, earned his fifth save with two innings. T.J. McFarland (4-3) took the loss.

Astros 6, Tigers 5

In Detroit, Josh Reddick hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning, lifting the Houston Astros over Detroit.

The Astros trailed 5-3 when the Tigers brought in reliever Bruce Rondon (1-2) to start the eighth. He allowed singles to Derek Fisher and Jose Altuve before Reddick's drive sailed well beyond the wall in right field.

Reddick drove in five runs, and the Astros won despite getting only three innings from starter Dallas Keuchel in the left-hander's return from a neck injury.

Keuchel, who hadn't pitched since June 2, allowed three runs and six hits in three innings, walking three and striking out three. Manager A.J. Hinch indicated before the game that he would be on a pitch count, and he was pulled after throwing 79.

Brad Peacock (9-1) allowed two runs in four innings of relief, then Chris Devenski pitched the eighth and Ken Giles finished for his 22nd save in 24 chances.

Altuve had three hits, extending his hitting streak to 19 games and raising his average to .369.

Yankees 6, Rays 1

In New York, Japan's Masahiro Tanaka took a perfect game into the sixth inning and struck out a career-high 14, pitching the New York Yankees past Tampa Bay for their fifth straight win.

Brett Gardner hit a leadoff home run. Aaron Judge lined his AL-leading 33rd homer and Clint Frazier added a three-run shot to boost Tanaka (8-9).

Tanaka struck out the first five batters, all swinging. He set down 17 in a row before Adeiny Hechavarria grounded a sharp, two-out single up the middle. Tanaka allowed two hits and walked none, and finished up by striking out the side in the eighth.

Lucas Duda homered in the seventh, a day after Tampa Bay got him a trade with the Mets. Austin Pruitt (5-2), called up from Triple-A to take the turn of injured Jake Odorizzi, gave up all three homers. The Rays have lost seven of



Cory Spangenberg #15 of the San Diego Padres hits an RBI triple during the sixth inning of a baseball game against the Pittsburgh Pirates at PETCO Park on July 28 in San Diego, California. (AFP)

MLB plans Asian, England games for '19, '20

NEW YORK, July 29, (AP): Major League Baseball plans to start the 2019 and 2020 seasons in Asia and play regular-season games in England in June of both years.

The collective bargaining agreement reached in November was finalized and sent to the clubs Friday, and it contains a schedule for international play through 2021 along with how much extra money

each player will receive for making the trips.

The agreement calls for the season opener to be played in Asia in 2018 and 2020 and specifies Japan for 2019. However, plans have not progressed for a 2018 Asian opener and those games are now unlikely, according to a baseball official familiar with the planning. The official spoke on condition of anonymity

because no statement was authorized.

A two-game series between Cleveland and Minnesota in San Juan, Puerto Rico, already has been announced for next April 17-18, and the agreement calls for an additional series in Puerto Rico or the Dominican Republic in May 2020.

Series in Mexico are planned for each April from 2018-21 and for May in 2019 and 2021.

nine and are 0-5 in the Bronx this year.

Brewers 2, Cubs 1

In Milwaukee, Brent Suter tossed seven scoreless innings and Milwaukee edged Chicago, moving within a half-game of the NL Central-leading Cubs.

Suter (2-1) limited the Cubs to four hits. He struck out five and walked one in a career-long outing.

Corey Knebel notched his 18th save in 23 attempts, striking out pinch-hitter Kyle Schwarber with the tying run on third.

Jose Quintana (6-9) gave up four hits and two runs in six innings.

Marlins 7, Reds 4

In Miami, J.T. Realmuto had three hits, including a tiebreaking home run, to spark a four-run seventh inning and help Miami top Cincinnati.

Mike Aviles added a pinch-hit two-run homer and Tyler Moore had an RBI double in the seventh for the Marlins, who have won six of eight.

Dustin McGowan (6-1) pitched an inning in relief for the victory. Realmuto's home run to left field off Wandy Peralta (3-2) was his 12th of the season, a new career-high, and his sixth game with at least three hits.

Cincinnati has dropped five straight and has lost 13 of 15 since the All-Star break.

Phillies 10, Braves 3

In Philadelphia, Aaron Altherr homered twice and Jake Thompson pitched five scoreless innings in an emergency start to lead Philadelphia over Atlanta.

Tommy Joseph and Cameron Rupp also homered and Freddy Galvis had three hits for the Phillies, who have scored 19 runs on seven homers and 14 extra-base hits while winning the last two.

Thompson (1-0) replaced Jeremy Hellick-

son, who was scratched an hour before the game. Hellickson is thought to be among the players the Phillies are likely to move before Monday's non-waiver trading deadline.

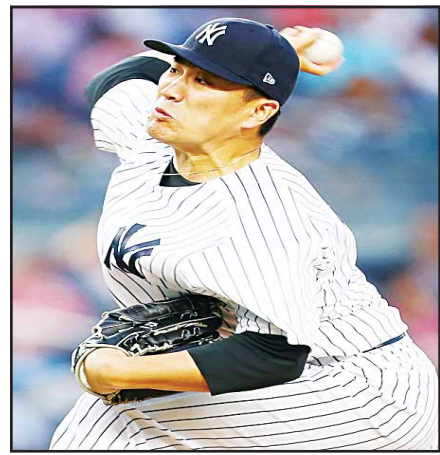
Thompson, who the Phillies acquired from Texas in the 2015 trade that sent Cole Hamels to the Rangers, gave up five hits while striking out five and walking two. He was making his fourth appearance this season but first since last September.

Julio Teheran (7-9) allowed eight runs in 4-2/3 innings.

Angels 7, Blue Jays 2

In Toronto, Parker Bridwell pitched a career-high 7-1/3 innings to win his third straight decision. C.J. Cron hit a two-run homer and Los Angeles beat Toronto.

Mike Trout had two RBIs and Yonel Escobar



Masahiro Tanaka #19 of the New York Yankees pitches in the fourth inning against the Tampa Bay Rays at Yankee Stadium on July 28 in the Bronx borough of New York City. (AFP)

had two doubles and an RBI for the Angels.

Toronto's Justin Smoak hit a solo homer off Cam Bedrosian in the ninth, his 29th.

Bridwell (5-1) allowed one run and three hits. J.A. Happ (3-8) allowed three runs in six innings and is 0-4 with a 6.00 ERA over his past four starts.

Indians 9, White Sox 3

In Chicago, Jose Ramirez had four hits, including a homer, and Carlos Santana and Michael Brantley also went deep as Cleveland extended its winning streak to eight and sent Chicago to its 13th loss in 14 games.

Danny Salazar (4-5) allowed two runs and three hits in six-plus innings to win his second straight start since being activated from the disabled list.

Derek Holland (5-10) allowed six runs and nine hits in 4-1/3 innings and has given up five or more runs in five of his last seven starts.

Twins 6, Athletics 3

In Oakland, California, Jaime Garcia (1-0) struck out seven over 6-2/3 innings in his debut for Minnesota debut, which acquired him Monday from Atlanta, and the Twins stopped a four-game losing streak.

Jason Castro hit RBI doubles in consecutive innings, and Ehire Adrianza and Miguel Sano added run-scoring singles.

Brandon Kintzler got three outs for his 28th save as the Twins won for just the third time in their last 17 games at the Coliseum.

Daniel Gossett (2-6) was chased after just 3-2/3 innings, allowing five runs — four earned — and nine hits.

Mets 7, Mariners 5

In Seattle, Michael Conforto returned to his hometown and hit a pair of solo home runs. Neil Walker and Curtis Granderson had two-out RBI singles off David Phelps (2-5) to cap a three-run eighth inning and New York rallied after wasting a 4-0 lead.

MLB Scoreboard

Table with columns for team, wins, losses, and games played. Includes NY Mets, San Diego, LA Dodgers, Minnesota, St. Louis, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Texas, Miami, Houston, Kansas City, LA Angels, Philadelphia, NY Yankees.

MLB Standings table for Eastern Division and Central Division.

Western Division and National League Eastern Division standings.

Western Division and National League Western Division standings.

Table with columns for team, wins, losses, and games played. Includes Milwaukee, Kansas City, Tampa Bay, Boston, Philadelphia, Toronto, Houston, Seattle, Texas, Oakland, Baltimore, Detroit, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, Philadelphia, NY Yankees.

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NFL Roundup

Cowboys' Moore suspended

Retirement remains an option: Roethlisberger

WASHINGTON, July 29, (RTS): Ben Roethlisberger teased the idea of walking away from football after last season but never truly seemed serious.

However, the five-time Pro Bowl quarterback said during an interview with the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on Friday that retirement at the end of the 2017 season is a serious consideration.

Roethlisberger, 35, will tie Terry Bradshaw for the longest tenure as a Steelers quarterback as he heads into his 14th NFL season.

Two-time Pro Bowl defensive tackle Jurrell Casey agreed to terms on a multi-year deal with the Tennessee Titans, the team announced.

Terms of the deal were not disclosed by the club, but multiple outlets reported that the pact was for four years and \$60.4 million -- with \$40 million guaranteed.

Los Angeles Rams star defensive tackle Aaron Donald missed the deadline for the team's training camp and now is officially a holdout.

Players were due to report to the team's training camp at 11 am PT at UC Irvine. The Rams and Donald are still engaged in contract negotiations, and general manager Les Snead said agreeing to an extension with Donald is "still a priority."

Oakland Raiders left tackle Donald Penn did not report for the start of the team's training camp due to frustration over his contract, multiple media outlets reported.

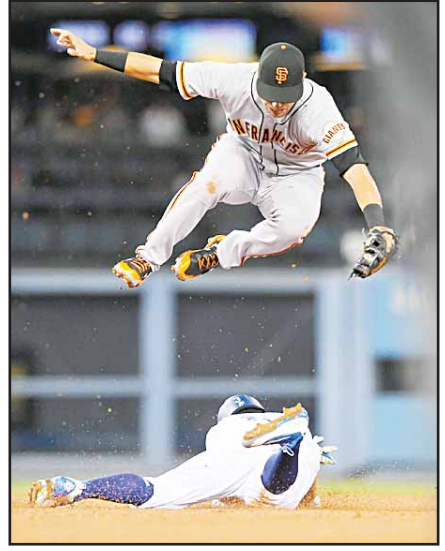
The 2016 Pro Bowl selection is entering the final season of a two-year contract that has a base salary of \$5.8 million, with bonuses and incentives pushing that total to \$7.15 million. By comparison, at least 14 offensive tackles in the NFL make \$10 million per season.

Atlanta Falcons running back Devonta Freeman is doing his best to protect himself as his representatives attempt to hammer out a contract extension.

Freeman has paid roughly \$50,000 for a \$10 million insurance policy to serve as protection for the upcoming season should he fail to come to terms with the team, NFL Network's Michael Silver reported.

Dallas Cowboys defensive end Damontre Moore has been suspended for the first two regular-season games of the 2017 season for violating the NFL's substance-abuse policy, the league announced.

The ban stems from Moore being charged with driving under the influence as well as driving with a suspended license in December.



San Francisco Giants second baseman Joe Panik jumps over Los Angeles Dodgers Austin Barnes after missing the throw from home as Barnes advances to second on a wild pitch during the fifth inning of a baseball game on July 28 in Los Angeles. (AP)