

S. Korean men claim archery gold in Tokyo

Teen leads way

TOKYO, July 26, (AP): The teenager just couldn't stay still. He was constantly moving around and applauding his older South Korean teammates on good arrow shots (of which there were many).

In turn, the veterans fed off 17-year-old Kim Je-deok's youthful spirit - and relied even more on his clutch arrow shooting (of which there was plenty).

Led by the steady shooting of the nation's newest standout, South Korea defended its Olympic men's archery team title at the Tokyo Games on Monday. He came up big in the semifinals to hold off host nation Japan and then again in a 6-0 win over Taiwan during the gold-medal match at Yumenoshima Park Archery Field.

"The hero of today," 39-year-old Oh Jin-hyek said of his younger teammate. "Every time we had any challenges and difficulties, he shot the bull's-eye and got the perfect score. He really lifted our morale."

OLYMPICS

So much energy, too. Then again, that's precisely what Oh and fellow veteran Kim Woojin wanted.

"The two told me, 'Let's go crazy today. Let's be a crazy team,'" Kim Je-deok said. "If we're too anxious we might not get the intended results. So let's try to keep up our morale and keep up our spirits."

He had a vivid dream before the match, too, about fighting with his friend.

Close. It turned out to be "alongside" and "with friends."

"We're all able to get along," Kim Woojin, 29, said of the bond despite the age difference. "Je-deok didn't seem to feel uncomfortable around us. Je-deok was always cheering us on."

One of the tricky things was trying



From left, gold medal winners South Korea's Kim Je Deok, Kim Woojin, and Oh Jinhyek celebrate during the men's team medal ceremony at the 2020 Summer Olympics, on July 26, in Tokyo, Japan. (AP)

to figure out an inconsistent wind on the eve of a possible typhoon moving into the region. The impending high wind and rain has already led to moving some of Tuesday's matches to a different day.

But South Korea had no trouble with the variant breeze in the final, scoring a 10 on 13 of their 18 arrows to take home the nation's sixth overall Olympic gold medal in the men's event.

"He was a great asset to the team and very grateful for him," Oh said of the youngster.

This was also the second gold in three days for Kim Je-deok. He helped South Korea win in the Olympic debut of the mixed team competition. His powerhouse archery nation is now 3 for 3 in gold medals at the Tokyo Games. The women's team won Sun-

day. The Taiwanese team made up Deng Yu-Cheng, Tang Chih-Chun and Wei Chun-Heng beat China and the Netherlands before falling to South Korea. Taiwan's men's team falls to 4-13 all-time in head-to-head matchups with South Korea.

In the bronze-medal match, Hiroki Muto helped Japan beat Netherlands in a shoot-off with a walk-off arrow that nearly landed in the heart of the target. He was hugged by teammates Takaharu Furukawa and Yuki Kawata.

The match before, Japan lost in a shoot-off to South Korea, with Kim Je-deok's arrow being closest to the center.

So close to an upset. "We fought against the Koreans," Furukawa said. "We came this far. We

decided we're going to show off all we have prepared. We said we're going to do our best."

The South Korean men's team has now won a medal in eight of the last nine Olympics. The lone exception was a fifth-place showing at the 1992 Barcelona Games.

On the horizon, some possible bad weather. The Olympic archery schedule was adjusted for Tuesday - just in case. The morning sessions involving first- and second-round individual matches were delayed until noon local time and the afternoon session postponed. The plan is to make up the matches Wednesday and Thursday.

The individual finals for the men and women at the Tokyo Games are still scheduled for Friday and Saturday.

ChiSox top Brewers, avoid sweep

Red Sox storm past Yankees

BOSTON, July 26, (AP): Held hitless into the eighth inning by Domingo Germán and looking feeble, Alex Verdugo and the Boston Red Sox suddenly erupted for five runs and stormed past the New York Yankees 5-4.

Verdugo opened the eighth with a long double for Boston's first hit. Later, Kiké Hernández slid home headfirst on Xander Bogaerts' sacrifice fly with the go-ahead run to cap the rally.

The Red Sox won for the 10th time in 13 games against the Yankees and reclaimed first place in the AL East, a game ahead of Tampa Bay. New York fell nine games behind Boston.

Boston trailed 4-0 when Verdugo doubled to deep right, and Germán was lifted after the hit. Jonathan Loaisiga (7-4) relieved, and Boston broke loose with four straight hits. Hunter Renfroe had an RBI double, Christian Vázquez singled home a run and Hernández followed with an RBI double, cutting it to 4-3.

Brandon Workman (1-2) earned the win and Matt Barnes got the final three outs for his 21st save.

Rougned Odor had a solo homer and RBI single for New York.

White Sox 3, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, Lance Lynn allowed one run over six innings and hit a two-run single to lift Chicago over Milwaukee.

Lynn (10-3) allowed six hits, struck out six and walked none, outdueling Brandon Woodruff in a matchup of All-Star right-handers.

Michael Kopech pitched a scoreless inning for Chicago and Liam Hendricks tossed two for his 24th save in 28 chances.

Phillies 2, Braves 1

In Philadelphia, Aaron Nola came within one out of a shutout, and Philadelphia splits its four-game series against Atlanta.

BASEBALL

Nola allowed four hits and struck out nine in 8 2/3 innings. Ranger Suarez got the final out for his fourth save of the season.

Jean Segura hit a solo homer in the fourth and Ronald Torreyes homered in the eighth for the Phillies.

Orioles 5, Nationals 4

In Baltimore, Ryan McKenna scored on a sharp grounder by Ramon Urias for the winning run as Baltimore completed a three-game sweep of Washington.

Trey Mancini, Maikel Franco and McKenna hit solo homers for the Orioles, who improved to 1-51 when trailing after eight innings.

Cardinals 10, Reds 6

In Cincinnati, Harrison Bader and Dylan Carlson homered during a seven-run burst in the fourth inning and St. Louis beat Cincinnati.

Nolan Arenado hit his 20th home run and tripled, and Tyler O'Neill also connected for the Cardinals.

Indians 3, Rays 2

In Cleveland, Bobby Bradley's sacrifice fly in the eighth inning capped Cleveland's comeback and ended the Indians' 11-game losing streak to Tampa Bay.

The Indians managed just one run in seven innings against Tampa Bay starter Ryan Yarbrough and rallied in the eighth off reliever Matt Wisler (3-4).

Mets 5, Blue Jays 4

In New York, Pete Alonso homered, pinch-hitter Jeff McNeil broke a tie with a two-run double and New York beat Toronto in a successful debut for new starter Rich Hill.

Alonso hit three homers as New York took two of three in the series.

Marlins 9, Padres 3

In Miami, Deven Marrero and Brian Anderson homered off Yu Darvish, who allowed four runs in five innings,



Boston Red Sox's Martin Perez delivers a pitch against the New York Yankees in the first inning of a baseball game, on July 25, in Boston. (AP)

and Miami earned a split of its four-game series against San Diego.

Anthony Bender (2-1) allowed one run in two innings on a bullpen day for Miami. Seven pitchers combined to allow five hits.

Royals 6, Tigers 1

In Kansas City, Mo., Jorge Soler hit two home runs, Salvador Perez added a three-run blast and Daniel Lynch pitched eight scoreless innings for his first major league win as Kansas City beat Detroit for its fifth straight win.

The Royals finished the afternoon with eight hits and only two left on base in sweeping the three-game series.

Astros 3, Rangers 1

In Houston, Zack Greinke threw six solid innings, Abraham Toro homered and Houston sent Texas to its 12th straight loss.

The Rangers' skid is tied for second-longest in team history and the first time they've dropped a dozen in a row since 1982. The Texas record is 15 straight losses in September 1972. The Rangers' 0-10 road trip was the worst in team history.

Angels 6, Twins 2

In Minneapolis, Shohei Ohtani hit his major league-leading 35th home run and Los Angeles beat Minnesota.

Ohtani, had two hits, and his solo homer in the sixth snapped a 2-11 tie. Max Stassi had three hits and drove in three runs for the Angels.

Cubs 5, Diamondbacks 1

In Chicago, Kris Bryant, Anthony Rizzo and David Bote homered, Trevor Williams pitched effectively into the seventh inning, and Chicago beat Arizona.

Bryant and Bote each hit two-run shots as Chicago took two of three in the series.

Giants 6, Pirates 1

In San Francisco, LaMonte Wade Jr. homered twice and San Francisco beat Pittsburgh to avoid a three-game sweep.

Wilmer Flores and Thairo Estrada also went deep for San Francisco. The Giants improved to a majors-best 62-37 and maintained their slim lead over the Dodgers in the NL West heading into a series between the two division rivals this week at Oracle Park.

Dodgers 3, Rockies 2

In Los Angeles, Will Smith hit a go-ahead home run in the eighth inning and Los Angeles beat Colorado.

Chris Taylor added a pair of home runs and the short-handed Dodgers won consecutive games against the Rockies with just four total runs.

Mariners 4, Athletics 3

In Seattle, Kyle Seager hit a two-out, two-run single as part of Seattle's four-run third inning and Marco Gonzales won his second straight decision in a victory over Oakland.

Seattle took three of four in the series. The Mariners (54-46) are eight games over .500 for the first time since April 2019 and improved to 23-8 in one-run games.

Canada headed to bronze medal game against Mexico

Stewart's walk-off HR lifts US over Japan for 5-0 record

YOKOHAMA, Japan, July 26, (AP): Kelsey Stewart has a knack for walk-off hits in Japan.

Stewart hit a game-ending home run leading off the seventh inning, and the United States rallied late to beat Japan 2-1 Monday and win the Olympic softball group stage - and with it the right to bat last in the gold medal game.

In August 2018, Stewart's single capped a three-run 10th inning off Japan ace Yukiko Ueno that gave the U.S. a 7-6 win at the Women's Softball World Championship in Chiba, earning the Olympic berth.

OLYMPICS

She had been 1 for 12 with no RBIs at the Olympics before she drove the 98th pitch from Yamato Fujita (0-1) for the first U.S. home run of the tournament. Yuka Ichiguchi climbed the right field wall trying for a spectacular grab.

American players ran onto the field to celebrate their second straight walk-off win. Trying to bounce back from their 3-1 loss to Japan in the 2008 gold medal game, the Americans finished the group stage 5-0 while Japan dropped to 4-1.

Canada 8, Italy 1

Danielle Lawrie and Lauren Regula, sisters of former Major League Baseball players, combined on a four-hitter in a game shortened to six innings un-



Mexico's Victoria Vidales hits a RBI double during a softball game against Australia at the 2020 Summer Olympics, on July 26, in Yokohama, Japan. (AP)

der a rout rule.

Larissa Franklin drove in three runs for Canada (3-2), which headed to a bronze medal game against Mexico.

Lawrie, the 34-year-old sister of former major leaguer Brett Lawrie, allowed an unearned run and four hits in three innings. Regula (1-0), the 39-year-old sister of retired All-Star Jason Bay, struck out five in three hitless innings.

Jen Gilbert, who had been hitless in seven at-bats, had a go-ahead home run over the center-field cameras in the second. Born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, the 29-year-old Gilbert lives in Denton, Texas.

Japan upset China for table tennis 'mixed doubles' gold

TOKYO, July 26, (AP): The host country knocked off a heavyweight for Olympic gold in table tennis on Monday.

Japanese pair Jun Mizutani and Mima Ito ended China's recent dominance in the sport by beating Xu Xin and Liu Shiwen 4-3 for the mixed doubles title. The upset comes five years after China swept all four table tennis tournaments at the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Games.

Hopes were still high for Japan entering the match. Mizutani won bronze in singles in Rio, and Ito is considered by some to be China's biggest threat in the female ranks.

Franklin hit an RBI double in the third, and errors by shortstop Joey Ley and reliever Alexia Lacatena led to three unearned runs in the fifth, which included Franklin's first sacrifice fly and an RBI single by Jenn Salling, who is 7 for 12.

Victoria Hayward hit a two-run double in the sixth and Franklin followed with another sacrifice fly.

Mexico 4, Australia 1

Dallas Escobedo (2-2) pitched a

China got off to a fast start, convincingly - and quickly - winning the first two games 11-5 and 11-7. Japan fought back in the third game, winning 11-8, and then took two more close games, 11-9 in the fourth and 11-9 in the fifth.

China then won the sixth game, 11-6, to set up a deciding seventh game, which Japan dominated, taking an 8-0 lead and holding on for an 11-6 win - and the gold.

China's table tennis team is so strong that Liu, the women's world champion, didn't even make the women's singles' team and is only playing team events.

five-hitter, a day after the 29-year-old right-hander beat Italy with a one-hit shutout, and Mexico (2-3) advanced with a tournament-high 11 hits.

Brittany Cervantes singled in the second and scored when Suzannah Brookshire lined the ball down the left-field line and it rebounded off the low fence in foul territory, bouncing past Jade Wall. Brookshire sped to third for a triple and scored on Victoria Vidales' single.

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