

Seven for Simone

Biles claims another US Gymnastics title

FORT WORTH, Texas, June 7, (AP): Simone Biles looks ready for Tokyo. So it seems, are the leading contenders vying to join the reigning world and Olympic gymnastics champion in Japan next month.

The 24-year-old Biles claimed her seventh U.S. title, delivering another stunning - and stunningly easy - performance that served little doubt the pressure surrounding her bid to become the first woman to win back-to-back Olympic all-around gold in more than 50 years is only pushing her to even greater heights.

Shaking off a somewhat sloppy start Friday, at least by her impeccable standards, Biles put on a four-rotation show-case on what separates her from every other gymnast on the planet. Her score of 119.650 was nearly five points better than runner-up Sunisa Lee and good friend and teammate Jordan Chiles.

While Biles' victory was never in doubt - it rarely has been during her nearly eight-year reign atop the sport - she remains in no mood to coast. Visibly annoyed after stepping out of bounds three times during her floor routine on Friday, Biles responded the way she almost always does: by cleaning things up and expanding what is possible on the competition floor.

GYMNASTICS

And to think she didn't even bother with her latest innovation, a Yurchenko double-pike vault she drilled twice at the U.S. Classic last month that caught the attention of everyone from LeBron James to Michelle Obama. Instead, she opted for two with slightly lower difficulty that she completed so casually it was hard to tell if she was in front of an arena that screamed for her at every turn or just fooling around at practice back home in Houston.

Not that it mattered. She still posted the top score on vault anyway. Just like she did on beam. Just like she did on floor. Just like always.

Biles started her night on balance beam and with the instrumental from Lizzo's "Good as Hell" playing while the entire arena stopped to watch, she barely even wobbled while putting together a series that remains among the gold standard in the world on an event that's maybe her third best.

Her floor exercise, the one that includes two elements already named after her in the sport's Code of Points, was far more precise than it was on Friday. She was well in bounds on all but one of her tumbling passes and her 14.950 included a 6.8 D-score, which ranks the difficulty of the routine, tied for the highest by any athlete on any event at the meet.

Lee, competing on a bad ankle that sometimes left her limping around the arena, Lee appears to be gaining momentum following a sluggish return to competition last month. Behind a bars routine that is one of the most innovative and electric on the planet, Lee fended off a strong challenge from Chiles to hold on to silver.



Simone Biles celebrates after competing in the vault during the U.S. Gymnastics Championships, on June 6, in Fort Worth, Texas. (AP)

Marchessault scores hat trick as Golden Knights crush Avalanche



Vegas Golden Knights defenseman Alec Martinez (23) and Colorado Avalanche right wing Valeri Nichushkin (13) vie for the puck during the first period in Game 4 of an NHL hockey Stanley Cup second-round playoff series, on June 6, in Las Vegas. (AP)

LAS VEGAS, June 7, (AP): Jonathan Marchessault had his fourth career hat trick to lead the Vegas Golden Knights to a 5-1 victory over the Colorado Avalanche to tie their second-round series at two games apiece.

Two days after his tying goal sparked a come-from-behind win in Game 3, Marchessault got his third three-goal game with the Golden Knights. The eight-year veteran also had one while with Florida.

Max Pacioretty and Patrick Brown also scored for Vegas, while Marc-Andre Fleury made 17 saves for his 87th career playoff victory - one shy of tying Ed Belfour for fifth on the all-time list.

The game was played in front of an announced crowd of 18,081 - the largest to attend an NHL game this season.

Game 5 is Tuesday night at Colorado. Brandon Saad had the only goal for the Avalanche, who had an early 1-0 lead. Philipp Grubauer, who came in with a .941

Canadiens rout Jets 5-1 to take 3-0 series lead



Winnipeg Jets goaltender Connor Hellebuyck makes a glove save off Montreal Canadiens' Nick Suzuki during the second period of an NHL Stanley Cup playoff hockey game in Montreal, on June 6. (AP)

playoff save percentage, stopped 30 shots.

The Golden Knights have outscored Colorado 9-4 since the start of the second

period in Game 2, and outshot the Avalanche 110-52 since the first period of the same game.

Canadiens 5, Jets 1

In Montreal, Joel Armia had two goals and an assist, Carey Price made 26 saves, and the Montreal Canadiens defeated the Winnipeg Jets 5-1 to take a 3-0 lead in their second-round playoff series.

Corey Perry, Artturi Lehkonen and Nick Suzuki also scored for the Canadiens, who have won six straight playoff games and haven't trailed in a game since losing Game 4 against Toronto in the first round. Montreal will try to complete a four-game sweep of Winnipeg on Monday night at home.

ICE HOCKEY

The Canadiens lead a playoff series 3-0 for the first time since 2015, when they beat Ottawa in the opening round.

Adam Lowry scored for the Jets, and Connor Hellebuyck made 28 saves. Winnipeg was without top center Mark Scheifele, who is serving a four-game suspension for a charging penalty in the series opener. The Jets got Paul Stastny back after he missed the first two games with an undisclosed injury.

Red Sox hold off Yankees for 3-game sweep in Bronx

La Russa passes McGraw on wins list as Chisox blank Tigers

CHICAGO, June 7, (AP): Tony La Russa moved past John McGraw into sole possession of second on baseball's career manager wins list, directing the Chicago White Sox to a 3-0 victory over the Detroit Tigers.

It was win No. 2,764 for La Russa, who was hired by Chicago in October for his first managerial job since he led St. Louis to the World Series championship in 2011. It has been a bit of a bumpy ride so far, but the 76-year-old Hall of Famer has the White Sox on top of the AL Central.

Second on the list is almost assuredly the highest finish for La Russa, who also began his managerial career with the White Sox in 1979. The top spot belongs to Connie Mack with 3,731 victories.

La Russa watched as Chicago won for the 10th time in 14 games. Dylan Cease (4-2) struck out 10 in seven sparkling innings, Liam Hendriks worked the ninth for his 15th save and Tim Anderson had two hits and two RBIs.

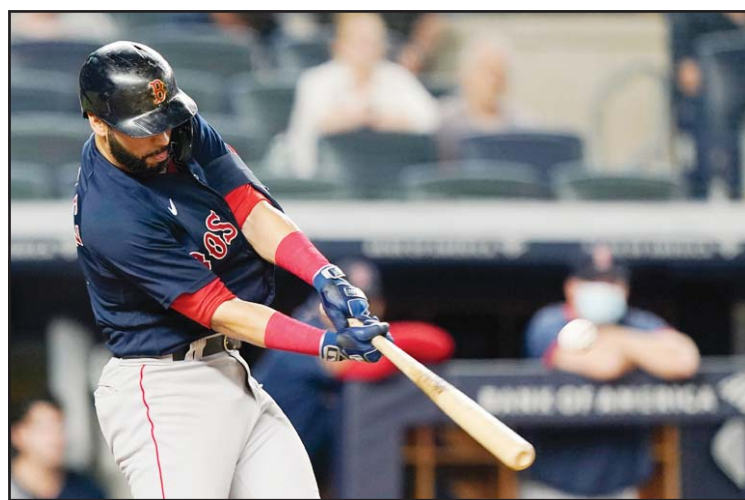
José Ureña (2-5) allowed three runs and six hits in five innings.

Phillies 12, Nationals 6
In Philadelphia, stadium workers using tractors scrambled to hoist the protective netting behind home plate after it suddenly collapsed while Trea Turner was batting in the eighth inning. No one appeared to be hurt in the mishap, which caused a 20-minute delay.

Washington pitcher Austin Voth suffered a broken nose when he was hit trying to bunt and plate umpire Brian O'Nora was forced to leave after being struck in the mask by a foul tip. He was replaced by crew chief Fieldin Culbreth, resulting in a nine-minute delay.

Red Sox 6, Yankees 5, 10 innings
In New York, Xander Bogaerts hit a two-run single with two outs in the 10th inning, and the Boston Red Sox held off the Yankees in a wild finish for their first three-game sweep in the Bronx since June 2011.

Marwin González launched a tying homer in the seventh for Boston and made a slick defensive play at second base with a runner in scoring position for the final out. González also turned a tough double play in the bottom of the 10th - and committed a throwing error that put Tyler Wade on second



Boston Red Sox second baseman Marwin Gonzalez hits a game-tying, two-run, home run during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the New York Yankees, on June 6, at Yankee Stadium in New York. (AP)

with two outs.

Brewers 2, Diamondbacks 0

In Milwaukee, Corbin Burnes (3-4) struck out a career-high 13 in seven innings, sending Arizona to its team-record 17th straight road loss.

Daniel Robertson homered in the fifth off Caleb Smith (2-2) and Tyrone Taylor in the sixth against Riley Smith as the Brewers completed a four-game sweep for their four-game home winning streak since Sept. 19-22, 2019.

BASEBALL

Brad Boxberger got his second save, and the Brewers won their ninth in 10 games.

Marlins 3, Pirates 1
In Pittsburgh, Sandy Alcantara (3-5) gave up one run and six hits in eight innings, ending Miami's longest losing streak in six years at eight games.

Yimi Garcia pitched a perfect ninth inning for his 10th save.
Jesus Aguilar hit a 444-foot solo home run and added a sacrifice fly for Miami.

Orioles 18, Indians 5
In Baltimore, Cedric Mullins hit a leadoff homer as part of a three-hit

day, and Baltimore scored its most runs since beating Oakland 18-2 on Aug. 16, 2015. The Orioles had 21 hits.

Mullins reached base in his first five plate appearances before his flyout in the eighth ended his on-base streak at 11. He had hits in nine consecutive at-bats in that span.



La Russa

(0-2) gave up seven runs - five earned - and five hits in 1 1/3 innings.

Braves 4, Dodgers 2
In Atlanta, Max Fried outpitched Trevor Bauer, and Atlanta took two of three in the first meeting of the teams since Los Angeles rallied from a 3-1 deficit to win last year's NL Championship Series.

Fried (3-3) allowed one run and six

hits in six innings and walked none for the first time in nine starts. Bauer (6-4) gave up three runs and six hits in six innings and matched his season high of four walks for the fourth time.

Albert Pujols hit his 671st home run and had two hits and two RBIs for the Dodgers.

Astors 6, Blue Jays 3

In Buffalo, N.Y., José Altuve led off the game with a home run, rookie Luis García (5-3) earned his fifth straight win, allowing one run and three hits in six innings.

Ryan Pressly worked the ninth for his ninth save.

Toronto went 3-2 in its first homestand at the home of its Triple-A affiliate.

Twins 2, Royals 1

In Kansas City, Mo., Minnesota first baseman Miguel Sanó swooped in to catch a popped-up bunt and start a triple play.

With Jarrod Dyson on second and Cam Gallagher on first, Nicky Lopez bunted to the right side. Sanó charged in to make the catch and threw to shortstop Andrelton Simmons to double off Dyson.

Simmons then trotted toward Gallagher and tossed to second baseman Nick Gordon, who was covering first, to complete the Twins' first triple play since 2019.

Reds 8, Cardinals 7

In St. Louis, Jesse Winker hit a tie-breaking home run off Alex Reyes (3-2) in the ninth for his second three-homer game this season, and Cincinnati completed its first four-game sweep of St. Louis since May 4-7, 1990.

Winker had six RBIs and Eugenio Suárez added a two-run double for the Reds, who led 7-0 by the third inning.

St. Louis has lost five straight for the first time since Aug. 3-7, 2018.

Rockies 3, Athletics 1

In Denver, Germán Márquez (4-5) allowed one run and four hits in six innings, and Colorado avoided a three-game sweep. Daniel Bard pitched two innings for his seventh save.

Raimel Tapia provided the early offense with a two-out RBI single in the third off James Kaprielian (2-1) and Brendan Rodgers brought in another on a sacrifice fly in the fourth.

MLB Results/Standings

WASHINGTON, June 7, (AP): Results and standings from the MLB games on Sunday.

Baltimore	18	Cleveland	5	Miami	3	Pittsburgh	1
Houston	6	Toronto	3	Atlanta	4	LA Dodgers	2
Chic. W Sox	3	Detroit	0	Milwaukee	2	Arizona	0
Minnesota	2	Kansas City	1	Philadelphia	12	Washington	6
Colorado	3	Oakland	1	Cincinnati	8	St. Louis	7
Tampa Bay	7	Texas	1	Chicago Cubs	4	San Francisco	3
Seattle	9	LA Angels	5	NY Mets	6	San Diego	2
Boston	6	NY Yankees (10 inn)	5				

American League				National League			
East Division				East Division			
W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	38	23	.623	New York	29	23	.558
Boston	36	23	.610	Atlanta	28	29	491 3-1/2
Toronto	30	27	.526	Philadelphia	28	30	483 4
New York	31	29	.517	Miami	25	33	431 7
Baltimore	21	38	.356	Washington	24	32	429 7
Central Division				Central Division			
W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	36	23	.610	Chicago	33	26	.559
Cleveland	31	26	.544	Milwaukee	33	26	.559
Kansas City	29	28	.509	St. Louis	31	29	517 2-1/2
Detroit	24	35	.407	Cincinnati	28	29	491 4
Minnesota	24	35	.407	Pittsburgh	23	35	.397 9-1/2
West Division				West Division			
W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	35	26	.574	San Francisco	37	22	.627
Houston	33	26	.559	San Diego	36	25	.590 2
Seattle	30	31	.492	Los Angeles	34	25	.576 3
Los Angeles	27	32	.458	Colorado	24	36	400 13-1/2
Texas	23	38	.377	Arizona	20	41	.328 18

Dom Nunez added an insurance run in the eighth on a sac fly.

Rays 7, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Texas, Rookie Taylor Walls had a tiebreaking, two-run double in the eighth off Josh Sborz, his season-high third hit, after Tampa Bay loaded the bases with no outs against John King (5-4).

The AL-leading Rays trailed 1-0 before scoring three runs in the eighth and four in the ninth to get the series victory in their return to the stadium that hosted their neutral-site World Series loss to the Los Angeles Dodgers last fall.

Cubs 4, Giants 3

In San Francisco, Patrick Wisdom hit a pair of home runs and drove in three runs in helping Chicago avoid a four-game sweep. Wisdom has seven home runs in 13 games this season.

Kyle Hendricks (7-4) won his fifth straight start, allowing three runs and seven hits in 6 1/3 innings. Craig Kimbrel struck out two in a perfect

ninth for his 14th save.
Johnny Cueto (4-2) gave up four runs - three earned - and six hits in 4 1/3 innings.

Mets 6, Padres 2

In San Diego, Marcus Stroman won his second straight decision after four consecutive losses and doubled in a run as New York gained a four-game split.

Stroman (5-4) gave up an unearned run and four hits in 6 2/3 innings with seven strikeouts and four walks, his most since Sept. 12, 2019.

Mariners 9, Angels 5

In Anaheim, California, Donovan Walton hit the go-ahead home run in the third inning, and Logan Gilbert (1-2) struck out seven and allowed two hits in five innings for his first major league win.

On a day when Patrick Sandoval (0-2) induced 32 swings and misses, the most of any big league pitcher this year, Walton led off the third by lining a fastball down the right-field line for a 2-1 lead.