

SPORTS

Red Sox beat Astros to avoid 3-game sweep

A's rout Mariners, keep streak going

HOUSTON, May 27, (AP): Rafael Devers homered off Justin Verlander, and the Boston Red Sox took advantage of two errors by the Houston Astros to avoid a series sweep with a 4-1 victory Sunday.

Eduardo Rodriguez (5-3) held Houston to one run and four hits in six innings, improving to 5-1 in his last eight starts.

The Astros lost for just the fifth time in 22 games and finished the regular season 4-2 against the Red Sox, who beat them 4-1 in the ALCS last season on the way to a World Series championship.

Devers' solo shot in the fourth gave the Red Sox a 2-1 lead. It was Devers' seventh homer of the season and fourth in six games.

Marcus Walden earned his second major league save and first this season.

Verlander (8-2) permitted three runs and six hits in seven innings, striking out six.

Athletics 7, Mariners 1

In Oakland, California, Matt Chapman homered for the second consecutive day. Josh Phegley also went deep and had three RBIs, and the streaking Oakland Athletics won their ninth straight, beating Seattle to complete a three-game sweep.

Brett Anderson allowed one run in 6-1/3 innings to win after being forced out of his previous start with a cervical strain. Anderson (6-3) struck out four and walked four, but got the Mariners to hit into double plays in three straight innings.

Seattle's Jay Bruce hit his 300th career double in the second and his 299th homer in the seventh. Bruce needs one home run to become the eighth active player with 300 doubles and 300 homers.

Mike Leake (3-6) took the loss.

Royals 8, Yankees 7, 10 Innings

In Kansas City, Missouri, Whit Merrifield got a fortunate hop on an RBI single in the 10th inning, and Kansas City beat New York despite blowing a six-run lead.

Merrifield hit a sharp, two-out grounder toward third baseman Gio Urshela with speedster Billy Hamilton at second. The ball skipped over Urshela's head, giving Hamilton time to race home. Hamilton had walked against Jonathan Holder (3-2) and stole second.

Hunter Dozier and Jorge Soler homered on back-to-back pitches in the fifth inning and Martin Maldonado and Ryan O'Hearn also went deep as Kansas City hit four home runs in a game for the first time this season. New York's Aaron Hicks tied it in the ninth with a two-run single off Ian Kennedy as the Yankees scored three runs with two outs to make it 7-4.



Colorado Rockies' German Marquez fouls off a pitch from Baltimore Orioles relief pitcher David Hess while trying to put down a bunt in the third inning of a baseball game on May 26 in Denver. (AP)

MLB Results/Standings

WASHINGTON, May 27, (RTRS): Results and standings from the MLB games on Sunday.

Toronto	10	San Diego	1
Tampa Bay	6	Cleveland	3
NY Mets	4	Detroit	3
Nationals	9	Miami	6
LA Dodgers	11	Pittsburgh	7
Boston	4	Houston	1
Minnesota	7	Chic W. Sox	0
Milwaukee	9	Phillies	1
KC Royals	8	NY Yankees (10 Ins)	7
Cincinnati	10	Chic Cubs	7
Colorado	8	Baltimore	7
Arizona	6	SF Giants	2
LA Angels	7	Texas	6
Oakland	7	Seattle	1
Atlanta	4	St Louis (10 Ins)	3

American League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
NY Yankees	34	18	.654	-
Tampa Bay	31	19	.620	2
Boston	28	25	.528	6-1/2
Toronto	21	32	.396	13-1/2
Baltimore	16	37	.302	18-1/2

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	36	16	.692	-
Cleveland	26	26	.500	10
Chic W. Sox	23	29	.442	13
Detroit	19	31	.380	16
Kansas City	18	34	.346	18

West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	35	19	.648	-
Oakland	28	25	.528	6-1/2
Texas	25	25	.500	8
LA Angels	24	28	.462	10
Seattle	23	32	.418	12-1/2

National League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	31	22	.585	-
Atlanta	30	24	.556	1-1/2
NY Mets	26	26	.500	4-1/2
Washington	22	31	.415	9
Miami	16	34	.320	13-1/2

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chic Cubs	30	21	.588	-
Milwaukee	30	24	.556	1-1/2
St Louis	26	26	.500	4-1/2
Pittsburgh	25	25	.500	4-1/2
Cincinnati	24	28	.462	6-1/2

West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
LA Dodgers	35	18	.660	-
San Diego	28	25	.528	7
Arizona	28	25	.528	7
Colorado	24	27	.471	10
San Francisco	21	31	.404	13-1/2

Kevin McCarthy (2-1) threw a scoreless 10th to earn the win.

Dodgers 11, Pirates 7

In Pittsburgh, Justin Turner had five hits after taking a day off. Joc Pederson homered during a six-run sixth inning that featured consecutive bases-loaded plunkings and Los Angeles beat Pittsburgh to complete a three-game sweep.

Matt Beatty had four RBIs and Corey Seager drove in two for the Dodgers, who got five innings of three-run ball from Kenta Maeda (6-2) in his return from the injured list. Los Angeles has won nine of 11.

Chris Archer (1-5) lost his fifth straight start. He allowed six walks and six hits over five innings of four-run ball, striking out three while throwing 105 pitches.

Montana DuRapau drilled Kiké Hernandez with a 3-2 pitch to put the Dodgers up 7-3 in the sixth. Dovydas Neverauskas relieved and plunked Austin Barnes, then gave up two more runs.

Braves 4, Cardinals 3, 10 Innings

In St Louis, Brian McCann drew a bases-loaded walk in the 10th inning and Atlanta rallied from three runs down in the ninth inning.

The Braves have won 12 of 16 and captured their fifth successive series by winning two of three from St Louis.

In the 10th, Freddie Freeman reached on an infield single with one out and moved to second on a walk to Josh Donaldson and advanced to third on Nick Markakis' fly ball to center field. After a Austin Riley was intentionally walked

BASEBALL

to load the bases, McCann drew a five-pitch walk from Tyler Webb (0-1) that brought in Freeman with the go-ahead run.

Jacob Webb (3-0) picked up the win with a scoreless ninth and Luke Jackson got the last three outs for his seventh save in 11 tries.

The Cardinals have lost four of six and have not won back-to-back games since May 1.

Brewers 9, Phillies 1

In Milwaukee, Brandon Woodruff allowed a solo homer but was otherwise perfect over eight innings, Christian Yelich hit his NL-leading 21st home run and Milwaukee connected five times against Philadelphia.

Woodruff (7-1) retired his first 15 batters before Andrew Knapp opened the sixth with his first homer. Woodruff struck out a career-high 10, fanning the final batter in each of his innings while matching a career high with 24 outs — a mark he set in his previous outing against Atlanta.

Ben Gamel had two homers for the Brewers, and Hernán Pérez and Yasmani Grandal also went yard. Matt Albers finished with a perfect ninth.

Zach Efflin (5-5) allowed three runs and six hits in 3-2/3 innings.

Rays 6, Indians 3

In Cleveland, Austin Meadows led off the game with a home run and was 4 for 4 with three RBIs, leading Tampa Bay over reeling Cleveland.

Tampa Bay (31-19) is a season-high 12 games over .500 after taking three of four in the series. The Indians (26-26) fell to .500 for the first time since April 4, when they were 3-3. Cleveland has dropped six of seven and finished 4-7 on its longest homestand of the season.

Jalen Beeks (4-0), who took over after Ryne Stanek got the first five outs, gave up two hits in 4-2/3 scoreless innings.

Cleveland scored twice in the ninth to cut into a 6-1 lead, but José Alvarado struck out Oscar Mercado and retired Carlos Santana with two on for his sixth save.

Trevor Bauer (4-4) allowed four runs in six innings and hasn't won since April 30.

Twins 7, White Sox 0

In Minneapolis, Jake Odorizzi permitted one hit in 5-1/3 scoreless innings, and Eddie Rosario and Max Kepler each hit a three-run homer as Minnesota completed a sweep of Chicago.



Finland players celebrate after beating Canada 3-1 in the Ice Hockey World Championships gold medal match at the Ondrej Nepela Arena in Bratislava, Slovakia on May 26. (AP)

Russia claim bronze medal with penalty shootout victory

Finland stun Canada to win 3rd world title

BRATISLAVA, May 27, (RTRS): Finland completed a fairytale world championship after they came from behind to beat favourites Canada 3-1 and clinch their third gold medal in an absorbing final.

The Finns, who beat the Canadians by the same score in their opening group-stage match, were underdogs in all three knockout stage games but they defied the odds to shock 2018 champions Sweden, Russia and Canada en route to the title. It was a case of history repeating itself for the battling Finns, who won their previous title at the same venue in 2011.

Canada, who were aiming for a record 27th title, dominated the opening period as Shea Theodor fired them ahead midway through with a brilliant solo effort.

The Vegas Golden Knights defenceman weaved his

way through three Finnish players and found the top corner with a superb wrist-shot after Oliwier Kaski had missed a penalty for Finland.

Canada hit the crossbar twice and those misses, coupled with lapses in concentration early in the second and third periods, cost them dearly.

ICE HOCKEY

Finland captain Marko Anttila, who scored the winner in the 1-0 semifinal win over Russia, was instrumental again as he levelled two minutes and 35 seconds into the second period when he beat goaltender Matt Murray with a fizzing low shot.

At exactly the same point in the third period, the tow-

ering Anttila punished the Canadians again as he popped up in front of goal and swept a fine Veli-Matti Savinainen assist into the roof of the net.

Harri Pesonen sealed Finland's memorable win in the closing stages and the Canadians failed to create much up front in the dying minutes although they threw men forward in the Ondrej Nepela Arena. Canada defence-man Damon Severson had mixed emotions.

Earlier on Sunday, Russia won the bronze medal with a penalty shootout win over the Czech Republic as the match finished 2-2 after regulation and overtime.

Nikita Gusev and Ilya Kovalchuk netted Russia's goals in the shootout as the Czechs, who had led 2-1 in regular time after falling behind early on, missed all of their four attempts.

Odorizzi (7-2) won his seventh straight decision and finished without allowing a run for the fifth time in his past six starts. He combined with four relievers for Minnesota's sixth shutout of the season. The Twins have won 11 of their past 12 games and swept a series for the seventh time this year. They swept eight series all of last season.

Rosario hit his 16th home run, second in the American League to Houston's George Springer, to cap a four-run third against starter Dylan Covey. Kepler's 12th home run came in the seventh, traveling an estimated 429 feet off the new wall of juniper bushes in center field.

Minnesota has a major league-best 104 home runs this season and has the top home run differential at plus-43.

Covey (0-4) allowed four runs in six innings.

Reds 10, Cubs 2

In Chicago, Nick Senzel had three hits, scored four times and cut down a runner at the plate, helping Tanner Roark and the Reds beat the Cubs.

Led by Senzel, the top third of Cincinnati's lineup collected seven of the team's season-high 17 hits. Joey Votto singled twice in his third consecutive multi-hit game, and Eugenio Suárez finished with two hits and three RBIs.

The last-place Reds also got five scoreless innings from Roark (4-3) in the rubber game of their weekend set against the NL Central leaders. Cincinnati lost 14 of its previous 19 series against Chicago.

The Cubs were hurt by a shaky performance by José Quintana (4-4), and their

decidedly dreary afternoon got even worse when Kris Bryant departed with an injury after colliding with center fielder Jason Heyward in the sixth inning.

Blue Jays 10, Padres 1

In Toronto, Cavan Biggio had three hits, including his first career home run, Lourdes Gurriel Jr had four hits and homered for the third straight game, and the Blue Jays beat San Diego.

Toronto's Justin Smoak hit two home runs, a two-run shot off Luis Perdomo in the fifth inning and a three-run drive off Adam Warren in the eighth.

With his Hall of Fame father Craig watching from the stands, Biggio got his first hit with a ground single through the right side in the second. He hit a solo home run into the fourth deck off left-hander Matt Wisler in the fourth, then added an RBI single in Toronto's four-run fifth.

Mets 4, Tigers 3

In New York, Zack Wheeler pitched into the eighth inning, Todd Frazier delivered a clever push bunt and New York kept up a run of comebacks by beating Detroit for its sixth win in seven games.

Adeiny Hechavarria's three-run homer off rookie starter Spencer Turnbull (2-4) helped the Mets rally from an early 3-0 deficit and reach the .500 mark. New York has trailed in all but one of these recent victories, with each of them coming at Citi Field.

Nicholas Castellanos homered and drove in three runs for the Tigers, who have lost 11 of 12.

Wheeler (4-3) retired 13 batters in a row and singled twice, boosting his bat-



Oakland Athletics pitcher Brett Anderson works against the Seattle Mariners in the first inning of a baseball game on May 26 in Oakland, California. (AP)

ting average to .308.

Edwin Diaz escaped a jam in the ninth for his 13th save in 14 chances.

Nationals 9, Marlins 6

In Washington, Howie Kendrick hit his eighth homer, drove in three runs and finished with three hits as Washington beat Miami.

Brian Dozier doubled in two during Washington's four-run rally with two outs in the third inning against Caleb Smith (3-2), who had his shortest outing of the season.

The Nationals have won the first three games against NL-worst Miami in a four-game series that wraps Monday. They entered on a five-game losing

streak.

Rockies 8, Orioles 7

In Denver, Nolan Arenado homered for the third straight game, pitcher German Marquez tripled and drove in three runs, and Colorado scored twice in the bottom of the ninth inning to rally past Baltimore.

Ian Desmond drew a bases-loaded walk from Mychal Givens to tie it, and Tony Wolters hit a sacrifice fly to score pinch-running pitcher Jeff Hoffman with the winning run.

Paul Fry (0-2) took the loss. Baltimore scored three runs in the seventh and three more in the eighth to rally from a 5-1 deficit.

Angels 7, Rangers 6

In Anaheim, California, Mike Trout and Kole Calhoun scored on wild pitches in a six-run seventh inning that gave Los Angeles a comeback win over Texas.

Trout hit a solo shot in the first, his 12th home run of the year. He was 2 for 3 with a walk and two RBIs.

Diamondbacks 6, Giants 2

In San Francisco, Ketel Marte homered for the third time in three games, Eduardo Escobar had three hits and Arizona completed a sweep of San Francisco, tying a franchise record for scoring in a three-game series.

Mike Yastrzemski, the 23-year-old grandson of Hall of Famer Carl Yastrzemski, had the first three hits of his career for the Giants, who lost their fifth straight and finished a 1-6 homestand.

The Diamondbacks outscored the Giants 34-8 in the series, matching a club mark they set at home in September 2016 against Colorado.

Rouyn-Noranda Huskies win Memorial Cup junior title

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia, May 27, (AP): The Rouyn-Noranda Huskies beat the Halifax Mooseheads one last time to win their first Memorial Cup.

Peter Abbandonato scored the go-ahead goal early in the third period and Rouyn-Noranda beat Halifax 4-2 in the winner-take-all major junior hockey finale.

Felix Bibeau, Joel Teasdale and Vincent Marleau also scored for the Quebec Major Hockey League champions Huskies, and Samuel Harvey stopped 23 shots. Samuel Asselin and Raphael LaVoie scored for the Mooseheads.

Rouyn-Noranda beat Halifax in six games in the QMJHL final to win the President's Cup and edged Mooseheads 4-3 on Wednesday night in the final round-robin game in the four-team tournament.

ICE HOCKEY

In the semifinal Friday night, Rouyn-Noranda beat the Ontario Hockey League champions Guelph Storm 6-4.



Rouyn-Noranda Huskies' William Cyr (center), celebrates with teammates after defeating the Halifax Mooseheads to win the Memorial Cup championship in Halifax on May 26. (AP)

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