



Houston crushes the Royals 9-6

HOUSTON (AP) — Jose Lima snapped a personal 13-game losing streak despite allowing three homers over seven innings, and Lance Berkman drove in four runs with two homers as the Houston Astros defeated the Kansas City Royals 9-6 Sunday.

Lima (2-13) hadn't won since his first start of the season on April 5 against the Pittsburgh Pirates. After a slow start Lima settled in, tying his season high with eight strikeouts and

walking three. He allowed seven hits. Lima's 13 consecutive losses set a franchise record and lead the majors. He also leads with 29 home runs allowed, 93 runs and 87 earned runs.

Octavio Dotel got five outs for his first career save.

Lima added to his stats early when he allowed three homers over the first five innings.

Joe Randa hit a solo homer in the second inning and Mike Sweeney, who went 4-for-4, added a two-run homer

in the third that gave the Royals a 3-2 lead. Sweeney has four hits eight times this season.

Bill Spiers tripled and scored on Jeff Bagwell's sacrifice fly in the first off Jay Witasick (2-8), who lasted just three innings.

Moises Alou hit a solo homer in the second and Berkman's three-run homer in the third put the Astros ahead 5-3.

Craig Biggio had a sacrifice fly in the fourth for a 6-3 lead.

Fallen comrade remembered at speedway

LOUDON, N.H. (AP) — Kenny Irwin is gone, but not forgotten.

Two days after Irwin's fatal crash at New Hampshire International Speedway,

Mark Martin kept seeing the signs in death's corner.

"I looked at that spot more than once today," Martin said after finishing third

Sunday to Tony Stewart in the New England 300. "The spot was painted on the wall, but I know where the cracks are."

And that wasn't all Martin noticed in the third turn, where Adam Petty crashed his Busch Series car eight weeks earlier. His death robbed NASCAR of its first fourth-generation driver.

"I'm not going to elaborate, but I looked directly at the end of the skid marks more than once today," Martin said.

Tony Stewart also had his longtime rival on his mind, and dedicated his victory to Irwin.

"The first part of the race, it was hard to focus," Stewart said. "But the chapel service this morning is probably when it bothered me the most."

The 29-year Stewart, and Irwin, who was 30, had raced each other hard for nearly a decade as they moved from open-wheel cars in the Midwest to NASCAR's elite Winston Cup circuit.

"We weren't always on the best of terms, but we always brought out the best in each other," Stewart said. "We always respected each other."

Facing a fuel problem that would have forced him to give up the lead late in the race Sunday, Stewart got lucky when the last 27 laps were rained out.

He dominated, leading 156 of 273 laps. A year ago, a fuel miscalculation by crew chief Greg Zipadelli cost him the race.

baseball scoreboard

By The Associated Press

| National League | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|------|------|--------|
| East Division | W | L | Pct. | GB |
| Atlanta | 52 | 36 | .591 | — |
| New York | 48 | 38 | .558 | 3 |
| Florida | 45 | 43 | .511 | 7 |
| Montreal | 42 | 42 | .500 | 8 |
| Philadelphia | 39 | 47 | .453 | 12 |
| Central Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct. | GB | |
| St. Louis | 51 | 36 | .586 | — |
| Cincinnati | 43 | 44 | .494 | 8 |
| Pittsburgh | 38 | 48 | .442 | 12 1/2 |
| Milwaukee | 37 | 51 | .420 | 14 1/2 |
| Chicago | 35 | 51 | .407 | 15 1/2 |
| Houston | 30 | 57 | .345 | 21 |
| West Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct. | GB | |
| Arizona | 51 | 37 | .580 | — |
| San Francisco | 46 | 39 | .541 | 3 1/2 |
| Colorado | 45 | 40 | .529 | 4 1/2 |
| Los Angeles | 44 | 42 | .512 | 6 |
| San Diego | 38 | 49 | .437 | 12 1/2 |
| Saturday's Games | | | | |
| Chicago Cubs 9, Chicago White Sox 2 | | | | |
| Cincinnati 14, Cleveland 5 | | | | |
| N.Y. Yankees 4, N.Y. Mets 2, 1st game | | | | |
| Anaheim 6, Colorado 2 | | | | |
| Atlanta 5, Boston 1 | | | | |
| San Francisco 7, St. Louis 6 | | | | |
| Pittsburgh 4, Minnesota 1 | | | | |
| Toronto 6, Montreal 3 | | | | |
| Philadelphia 13, Baltimore 4 | | | | |
| Florida 6, Tampa Bay 5 | | | | |
| N.Y. Yankees 4, N.Y. Mets 2, 2nd game | | | | |
| Kansas City 5, Houston 2 | | | | |
| Texas 8, San Diego 1 | | | | |
| Seattle 11, Los Angeles 0 | | | | |
| Oakland 8, Arizona 7, 10 innings | | | | |
| Detroit 4, Milwaukee 2, 15 innings | | | | |
| Sunday's Games | | | | |
| Boston 7, Atlanta 2 | | | | |
| Cleveland 5, Cincinnati 3 | | | | |
| Baltimore 5, Philadelphia 4 | | | | |
| Minnesota 3, Pittsburgh 2 | | | | |
| Toronto 13, Montreal 3 | | | | |
| Milwaukee 10, Detroit 2 | | | | |
| St. Louis 8, San Francisco 7 | | | | |
| Chicago Cubs 9, Chicago White Sox 6 | | | | |
| Houston 9, Kansas City 6 | | | | |
| Arizona 4, Oakland 2 | | | | |
| Seattle 2, Los Angeles 0 | | | | |
| Florida 10, Tampa Bay 9 | | | | |
| Anaheim 10, Colorado 4 | | | | |
| N.Y. Mets 2, N.Y. Yankees 0 | | | | |
| San Diego 4, Texas 3 | | | | |
| Monday's Games | | | | |
| No games scheduled | | | | |
| Tuesday's Game | | | | |
| All-Star Game at Atlanta, 8:35 p.m. | | | | |
| American League | | | | |
| East Division | W | L | Pct. | GB |
| New York | 45 | 38 | .542 | — |
| Toronto | 48 | 41 | .539 | — |
| Boston | 43 | 41 | .512 | 2 1/2 |
| Baltimore | 38 | 48 | .442 | 8 1/2 |
| Tampa Bay | 34 | 51 | .400 | 12 |
| Central Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct. | GB | |
| Chicago | 55 | 32 | .632 | — |

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Rockies downed by Angels

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Darin Erstad went 4-for-5, scored three runs and had two RBIs Sunday as the Anaheim Angels downed Colorado 10-4 to win their fourth straight and hand the Rockies their seventh consecutive loss.

Erstad capped a remarkable first half of the season with his 47th multihit game. His major league leading 144 hits are the most at the All-Star break since Atlanta's Ralph Garr had 149 in 1974.

Kent Bottenfield (5-7) pitched 7 1-3 steady innings for his first victory since June 2. He allowed 10 hits and four runs.

The Angels snapped a 4-4 tie with a three-run rally in the fourth, with Erstad's single off Masato Yoshii (4-9) driving in the tiebreaking run. Gabe White allowed Mo Vaughn's RBI single and Troy Glaus' sacrifice fly as the Angels broke the game open.

Garret Anderson gave the Angels a 4-3 lead with a solo homer in the third.

Anderson set the club record for most homers prior to the break. His 26th broke Leon Wagner's 1962 mark which was also matched this season by Troy Glaus.

Tom Goodwin's sacrifice fly scored Brent Mayne in the fourth to tie it at 4.

The Rockies wiped out Anaheim's early 3-0 lead with three runs in the second, on Jeffrey Hammonds' RBI double, a run-scoring single by Mayne and Goodwin's RBI grounder.

As they had in the first two games of the series, the Angels took a first-inning lead as Kevin Stocker and Vaughn delivered consecutive RBI doubles before Glaus' run-scoring single made it 3-0.

Yoshii was battered for eight hits and seven runs in 3 1-3 innings.

Stocker's run-scoring double in the sixth made it 8-4, and the Angels tacked on two runs in the seventh, when Mike DeJean's wild pitch scored Scott Spiezio and another run scored

on Erstad's infield grounder.

As Erstad ran off the field after making his only out of the game, the Edison Field crowd of 23,820 gave him a standing ovation.

Notes: Left-hander Gabe White allowed his first run since May 6 on Stocker's sixth-inning double, snapping a franchise record scoreless streak at 29 1-3 innings.

The Angels are 8-4 in interleague play, after entering this season with a 20-30 record against the NL.

The Rockies have lost six consecutive games at Edison Field.

Larry Walker's first-inning single was his first hit in 13 career at-bats as a DH, but he went 1-for-3 to finish the first half in a 2-for-22 slump.

Erstad is hitting .552 (16-for-29) during an eight-game hitting streak.

Vaughn has hit in 10 straight (16-for-42).

Erstad had two fewer weeks to get his hits than Garr.

Sampras sets record at Wimbledon

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — His lips quivering and eyes blinking back tears, Pete Sampras scanned the Centre Court stadium searching for the two people with whom he wanted to share the greatest moment in his tennis career.

There, high in the stands, he spotted his father, Sam, waving his arms desperately to get his son's attention, and his mother, Georgia.

Sampras climbed into the bleachers and shared a long embrace with his parents, who had just watched their son make history by winning his seventh Wimbledon title and record 13th Grand Slam championship.

"It was nice to share it with my parents," he said. "I've wanted them to be a part of it. It took me a while to find them (in the stands). Once I did, it was a great moment."

It was a rare display of emotion by Sampras, whose parents had never been to Wimbledon or seen him win any Grand Slam. They flew in from Southern California only the day before.

Sampras rewarded them by overcoming Patrick Rafter 6-7 (10), 7-6 (5), 6-4, 6-2 Sunday to pass Roy Emerson for the most Slam titles and tie Willie

Renshaw, a player in the 1880s, for the most Wimbledon victories.

"Win or lose today, I was going to invite them here," he said. "I'm glad they hopped on the plane and made the trip."

The only other time Sampras' parents saw him play in a Grand Slam tournament was at the 1992 U.S. Open, where he lost in the semifinals to Goran Ivanisevic.

"My parents are not tennis parents," he said. "You see a lot of cases where parents get too involved. I'm my own man. They always give me my independence."

There was another emotional family celebration at Wimbledon this weekend. On Saturday, 20-year-old Venus Williams climbed into the stands to embrace her 18-year-old sister, Serena, and father, Richard, after beating Lindsay Davenport in the women's final.

It was Venus' first Grand Slam title, and the second for the Williams sisters. Serena won the U.S. Open last year.

Venus and Serena were scheduled to play Sunday in the women's doubles final against Julie Halard-Decugis and Ai Sugiyama. But the match was put off until Monday due to rain.

Sampras' victory capped the most

challenging of his seven title runs at Wimbledon. Coping with acute tendonitis above his left ankle, he couldn't practice between matches.

"It really is amazing how this tournament just panned out for me," he said. "I didn't really feel like I was going to win here. I felt I was struggling."

The final had four hours of rain delays and ended in fading light at 8:57 p.m., after 3 hours, 2 minutes of actual play. If Rafter, the two-time U.S. Open champion, had won the fourth set, they would have had to return Monday.

Sampras said before the match that as long as his right arm held up, he would be a threat. It held up fine.

Sampras served 27 aces at up to 133 mph, and had 46 more unreturned serves as he averaged an incredible 123 mph on first serves.

Sampras faced only two break points and won once more without yielding a single game on his serve. Rafter couldn't break him in 21 service games. In his seven title matches, Sampras has dropped serve only four times in 131 games.

The only time Sampras buckled was in the first-set tiebreaker when he double-faulted to lose the set.

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