

SHIELD JUST THE START FOR TIGERS, SAYS MOORS

LONDON: Castleford could clinch the Super League Leaders' Shield today if they avoid defeat against Wakefield, but Junior Moors insists the only priority for the Tigers is to prove they can win tight games. The League Leaders' Shield would be the first Super League success in Castleford's history.

Samoan international Moors, who could make his return from a knee injury, has enjoyed the way Daryl Powell's side have performed.

But he is desperate for them to kick on and show they can win the Super

League Grand Final as well, by closing out games against the best teams.

"We have knocked some teams off the park this year but we know that when it comes to the big games it's going to be much tighter. We have to be ready for that," Moors said.

"Everyone is excited about the possibility of what could happen on Thursday and it's all about getting ready for the game. I'm pretty much back to full fitness so I'll be ready to go if called upon. It's been a bit frustrating but I'm coming back more or less on schedule. This was

the game we had singled out so it's gone okay overall."

It won't be easy for Castleford today with Wakefield currently fourth after they thumped Leeds last weekend.

Leeds will have the chance to put things right after that loss to Wakefield when they host St Helens tomorrow, knowing victory would take them a big step closer to the semi-finals.

However Saints forward Zeb Taia, who arrived from the Gold Coast Titans this season, is backing his team to beat the Rhinos who currently sit second.

"I believe Leeds are one of the best sides in the competition and we will certainly not be taking them lightly," Taia said. "They are a dangerous outfit but if we turn up with the right attitude and the right game plan, I'm confident we can come away with a win."

Hull can also boost their semi-final hopes at home to eighth-placed Huddersfield on Friday, while their Challenge Cup opponents Wigan host Salford in a must-win game for both teams. Meanwhile, Leigh have brought in Keiron Cunningham as their new

head of rugby in a bid to avoid relegation. Cunningham, who left Saints earlier this season, will work alongside head coach Neil Jukes, with the side heading to France to take on Catalan Dragons in a crucial game on Saturday.

"I have not come in to take anyone's place, but to add my knowledge and experience at this stage of the season. I get on well with Neil and he is a good friend," he said.

"Derek has brought me in to ease the burden on Neil and bring my experience to Leigh." — AFP



TEXAS: Texas Rangers' Elvis Andrus (1) dives safely back to first ahead of the tag of Detroit Tigers first baseman Miguel Cabrera (24) on a pick-off attempt in the eighth inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, in Arlington, Texas. Texas won 10-4.— AP

BASEBALL

STANTON HOMERS IN 6TH STRAIGHT, MARLINS FALL TO GIANTS

MIAMI: Giancarlo Stanton homered in his sixth consecutive game to give him a major league-leading 44, but the Miami Marlins fell 9-4 to the San Francisco Giants on Tuesday night. Stanton hit a solo shot to deep left-center field off Madison Bumgarner (3-5) in the third inning, tying the game at 2. He has 11 homers in his past 12 games, and 23 in the past 35. Only Sammy Sosa (25 in 1998) and Barry Bonds (24 in 2001) have hit more in that span, according to Elias. He is two games from tying the major league record of hitting a home run in eight straight set by Dale Long (1956), Don Mattingly (1987), and Ken Griffey Jr. (1993). Stanton will look to make it seven straight on Wednesday in the series finale. The Giants will start right-hander Matt Cain. Stanton has four home runs in 22 at-bats against Cain.

DODGERS 6, WHITE SOX 1

Joc Pederson got hit by a pitch with the bases loaded to force in the go-ahead run in a five-run eighth inning that lifted Los Angeles over Chicago. The victory pushed the major league-leading Dodgers (84-34) to a whopping 50 games above .500. Pederson was hit in the right thigh by a pitch from Jake Petricka, forcing home Yasmani Grandal with two outs and opening the floodgates for a Dodgers offense that had been stifled most of the game. Pinch-hitter Austin Barnes and Corey Seager each added a two-run single. Brandon Morrow (5-0) worked an inning of scoreless relief. Juan Minaya (1-1) took the loss. Tim Anderson homered on the first pitch of the game from Alex Wood, who went seven innings. The left-hander remained 14-1. Chicago has lost six straight road games and 10 of its last 11.

RED SOX 10, CARDINALS 4

Xander Bogaerts had three hits, Hanley

Ramirez, Sandy Leon and Jackie Bradley Jr. all added two RBIs and Boston beat St. Louis. Boston blew the game open courtesy of a wild fifth inning, tallying eight hits and eight runs against Cardinals starter Mike Leake and reliever Matt Bowman. It came an inning after the Red Sox turned their first triple play in six years. The Red Sox have won 11 of their past 13. Rick Porcello (7-14) was mostly able to cruise, giving up eight hits and three runs over seven innings to pick up the victory. He has won his past three starts after going winless for more than a month. Leake (7-11) got the loss and has failed to win in his past four starts.

NATIONALS 3, ANGELS 1

Gio Gonzalez allowed two hits in six scoreless innings. Howie Kendrick hit two solo home runs and Washington snapped Los Angeles' winning streak at six. Gonzalez (11-5) struck out four and issued three walks in lowering his home ERA to 1.79, now the best in baseball. The left-hander, who was three outs from a no-hitter July 31 at Miami, allowed his first hit two hits into the fifth against the Angels. Los Angeles, which had climbed into an AL wild-card spot during its streak, lost for the first time since Aug. 7. Tyler Skaggs (1-3) allowed the two home runs to Kendrick and five other hits while striking out six in five innings. Sean Doolittle picked up his 12th save of the season and his ninth with Washington.

INDIANS 8, TWINS 1

Carlos Santana hit two of Cleveland's five home runs and Danny Salazar continued his strong second-half stretch in the Indians' victory over Minnesota. Santana, Jason Kipnis and Edwin Encarnacion all hit solo homers off Bartolo Colon

(4-10) as Cleveland won its fifth straight overall and stayed unbeaten in eight games in Minnesota this season. Austin Jackson added a three-run shot and Santana homered from both sides of the plate for the Indians, who have outscored the Twins 56-16 at Target Field this season. Salazar (5-5) cruised through seven innings, allowing one run and three hits. He struck out 10 while running his mark to 2-0 with a 1.39 ERA and 46 strikeouts in 32 1/3 innings in five starts since coming off the disabled list on July 22.

YANKEES 5, METS 4

Sonny Gray outpitched Jacob deGrom, Jacoby Ellsbury and Gary Sanchez homered, and the Yankees held off the Mets to sweep both Subway Series games in the Bronx. Despite another late stumble by closer Aroldis Chapman, the Yankees kept the Empire State Building lit up in pinstripes with the win. The Mets will try to change the color scheme to blue and orange when the rivalry now shifts to Citi Field for two games beginning Wednesday night. Gray (7-7) earned his first win in three starts since being traded from Oakland to a playoff contender. He blanked the Mets on four singles until the seventh inning, when he issued a leadoff walk and rookie Dominic Smith followed with his first major league homer. Chapman gave up an infield single to pinch-hitter Jose Reyes and a two-run homer by rookie Amed Rosario in the ninth, then got two more outs for his 16th save in 20 chances. DeGrom (13-6) gave up more than four earned runs for the first time in 12 starts.

BRAVES 4, ROCKIES 3

Brandon Phillips scored the go-ahead run on a rare error by Nolan Arenado, and Atlanta beat Colorado. Nick Markakis homered for the Braves, who snapped an 11-game skid in Denver. The game was tied in the eighth when Phillips reached on a one-out double off Pat Neshek (3-3). One out later Tyler Flowers hit a routine grounder to Arenado at third base, but his throw to first was off line and skipped away from Mark Reynolds, allowing Phillips to score from second. Arenado, who has won the Gold Glove at third in each of his four seasons, has five errors in 306 total chances this season. Sam Freeman (2-0) pitched the seventh and Arodys Vizcaino worked the ninth for his seventh save.

RANGERS 10, TIGERS 4

Joey Gallo and Mike Napoli hit back-to-back homers and Texas beat Detroit to end Justin Verlander's three-game winning streak. The Rangers had just gone ahead 2-1 on Nomar Mazara's RBI single in the fourth inning when Gallo hit his 34th homer, a towering drive that landed in the second deck of seats in right-center above the Texas bullpen and was estimated at 459 feet. Napoli followed with a 416-foot shot to left for his 24th homer, and added a two-run single in the Rangers' four-run eighth. Robinson Chirinos also went deep off Verlander

(8-8), who struck out eight without any walks while allowing five runs in six innings. A.J. Griffin (6-3) allowed one run and struck out four in five innings.

REDS 2, CUBS 1

Scooter Gennett's sacrifice fly drove in Joey Votto to break a scoreless tie in the eighth, and Billy Hamilton singled in a run in the ninth and Cincinnati edged Chicago. After Votto walked for the third time and advanced to third on Adam Duvall's single off reliever Pedro Strop (3-3), Gennett smacked a line drive to right that Jason Heyward caught on the run. Cincinnati rookie Luis Castillo allowed only two hits over six innings. Chicago remained 11/2 games ahead of both St. Louis and Milwaukee in the NL Central. Ben Zobrist singled in a run in the ninth off Raisel Iglesias to cut the Reds' lead to 2-1, but Iglesias worked around three hits in the ninth for his 21st save in 22 chances. Michael Lorenzen (7-2) pitched a scoreless seventh for the win.

ASTROS 9, DIAMONDBACKS 4

Houston had six extra-base hits in the first four innings, building a big enough lead to top Arizona. Houston jumped to an 8-0 lead in the fourth inning. Starting pitcher Brad Peacock couldn't get out of the bottom of the fifth, so Francis Martes (5-2) came on and struck out all four batters he faced in 1 1/3 innings for the victory. Diamondbacks starter Anthony Banda (1-3) allowed eight runs and nine hits in four innings. George Springer had a two-run double and in the second and scored on Alex Bregman's RBI triple as the Astros opened a 5-0 lead. Peacock added a two-run double in the third.

RAYS 6, BLUE JAYS 4

Lucas Duda hit a two-run homer, Wilson Ramos added a solo shot and Tampa Bay beat Toronto, snapping a four-game skid. The Rays came in having scored 12 runs in their past 10 games. According to Elias, that is the lowest total for any AL team over a 10-game stretch since the designated hitter was introduced in 1973. The Rays suffered five shutout defeats in that span, and lead the majors with 10 scoreless losses. Blake Snell (1-6) allowed one run and four hits. Alex Colome finished for his 35th save in 40 chances. Blue Jays slugger Josh Donaldson homered for the third consecutive game, hitting a three-run shot in the fifth. Donaldson has gone deep nine times in 17 games. The blast gave him 500 RBIs. Marco Estrada (5-8) allowed six runs and 10 hits in 4 1/3 innings.

BREWERS 3, PIRATES 1

Keon Broxton hit a pinch-hit home run, Manny Pina drove in two runs, Zach Davies pitched into the seventh and Milwaukee beat Pittsburgh. Davies (14-6) allowed six hits, including Adam Frazier's run-scoring triple in the sixth, walked two and struck out two. Jared Hughes took over and retired Josh Harrison on a bouncer

back to the mound. Jacob Barnes retired the side in order in the eighth and Corey Knebel pitched the ninth for his 23rd save. Pina capitalized on Travis Shaw's success against Ivan Nova (10-10). Shaw came in batting .769 (10 for 13) against the big right-hander. He singled in the second and scored when Pina bounced into a fielder's choice with the bases loaded. In the sixth, Shaw walked and scored on Pina's two-out infield hit.

MARINERS 3, ORIOLES 1

Andrew Albers earned his first major league win in four years, pitching five effective innings as Seattle beat Baltimore to snap a five-game losing streak. Called up from the minors earlier in the day, Albers (1-0) settled down after giving up Jonathan Schoop's 26th home run in the first. He allowed six hits for his first victory since Aug. 12, 2013, when he went 2-5 in 10 starts with Minnesota. The 31-year-old lefty was acquired in a trade with Atlanta last Friday after going 12-3 at Triple-A Gwinnett. The Mariners' bullpen finished with four scoreless innings. Edwin Diaz pitched a perfect ninth for his 26th save in 30 opportunities. Seattle erased a 1-0 deficit with a run in the fourth and two in the fifth off Wade Miley (6-10).

ATHLETICS 10, ROYALS 8

Matt Joyce hit a three-run double to cap a six-run eighth inning and Oakland rallied past Kansas City. Joyce also homered and had four RBIs. Khris Davis added his 33rd home run and Matt Olson hit his fourth in five days for the A's. The Royals hit three home runs in the top of the eighth, including Mike Moustakas' 35th, to take a four-run lead before Oakland stormed back against relievers Joakim Soria and Mike Minor (5-5). The loss prevented the Royals from moving past the Angels in the race for the second AL wild card. Blake Treinen (1-0) retired five batters for his first AL win. Drew Butera, Eric Hosmer and Moustakas homered as part of the Royals' five-run eighth. Hosmer also had a two-run double and drove in four.

PADRES 8, PHILLIES 4

Cory Spangenberg homered and had a career-high four RBIs to back seven strong innings from Dinelson Lamet in San Diego's victory over Philadelphia. Spangenberg hit his career-high 12th homer and third in four games. He also had an early two-run double. Lamet (7-4) held the Phillies hitless over the first 4 2/3 innings in winning for the fourth time in his last five starts. The rookie tied a career high by working seven innings, allowing two runs and three hits. He struck out seven. Hector Sanchez had a two-run homer for the Padres. Jorge Alfaro hit his first major league homer for the Phillies, who have dropped five of six. Rhys Hoskins, called up on Thursday, hit his third home run in two days. Mark Leiter (1-3) was charged with eight runs, four earned, in five innings. — AP

MLB Results/Standings

Seattle 3, Baltimore 1; LA Dodgers 6, Chicago White Sox 1; San Diego 8, Philadelphia 4; Oakland 10, Kansas City 8; Atlanta 4, Colorado 3; Cleveland 8, Minnesota 1; Cincinnati 2, Chicago Cubs 1; Texas 10, Detroit 4; Milwaukee 3, Pittsburgh 1; San Francisco 9, Miami 4; Boston 10, St. Louis 4; Tampa Bay 6, Toronto 4; Washington 3, LA Angels 1; NY Yankees 5, NY Mets 4; Houston 9, Arizona 4.

American League Eastern Division				National League Eastern Division					
	W	L	PCT	GB		W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	68	51	.571	-	Washington	71	46	.607	-
NY Yankees	63	55	.534	4.5	Miami	57	61	.483	14.5
Tampa Bay	60	61	.496	9	NY Mets	53	64	.453	18
Baltimore	59	61	.492	9.5	Atlanta	53	64	.453	18
Toronto	57	62	.479	11	Philadelphia	43	74	.368	28
Central Division				Central Division					
Cleveland	65	52	.556	-	Chicago Cubs	62	56	.525	-
Minnesota	59	58	.504	6	St. Louis	61	58	.513	1.5
Kansas City	60	59	.504	6	Milwaukee	62	59	.512	1.5
Detroit	53	66	.445	13	Pittsburgh	58	61	.487	4.5
Chicago White Sox	45	71	.388	19.5	Cincinnati	50	70	.417	13
Western Division				Western Division					
Houston	73	46	.613	-	LA Dodgers	84	34	.712	-
LA Angels	61	59	.508	12.5	Colorado	66	53	.555	18.5
Seattle	60	61	.496	14	Arizona	66	53	.555	18.5
Texas	58	60	.492	14.5	San Diego	53	66	.445	31.5
Oakland	53	67	.442	20.5	San Francisco	48	73	.397	37.5