

## Sports

# Angels blow three leads in loss to Mariners, ending winning streak

## Raffy hit two-run homer to help Padres beat Los Angeles

SEATTLE: Ryon Healy drove in the winning run in the bottom of the 11th inning as the Seattle Mariners rallied three times to defeat the visiting Los Angeles Angels 9-8 Saturday night at Safeco Field. With Seattle trailing 8-7 after the Angels scored in the top of the 11th, Robinson Cano led off with a walk against Jim Johnson (2-1). An out later, Kyle Seager doubled to right-center field to score Cano and tie it. Healy then greeted Eduardo Paredes, the eighth Angels pitcher, with a liner down the left field line to score Seager. The Angels took the lead in the 11th on Andrelton Simmons' two-out, infield single, his fourth hit of the night, off Mariners right-hander Erik Goeddel (1-0). Both teams scored in the 10th, with Chris Young's RBI single offset by the Mariners' unearned run on first baseman Jeffrey Marte's throwing error.

### CARDINALS 8, CUBS 6 (10 INNINGS)

Koltzen Wong capped a comeback with a two-run, walk-off home run in the bottom of the 10th inning Sat, giving St. Louis a win over visiting Chicago. After the Cardinals scored twice in the last of the ninth on a double by Marcell Ozuna to tie the game at 6-6, Paul DeJong led off the 10th by drawing a walk off Luke Farrell (1-1). Wong then followed with his two-run shot, his second homer of the season, to end it. Tyler Lyons (1-0), who retired the only batter he faced in the top of the 10th, was credited with the win.

### TIGERS 3, ROYALS 2

Six Detroit pitchers made three first-inning runs stand up in holding off host Kansas City. Nicholas Castellanos had three extra-base hits while scoring a run and driving in another. Victor Martinez had two hits, scored a run and added an RBI, while Leonys Martin had two hits and scored a run. Jordan Zimmermann (2-0) lasted five innings to pick up the win. Shane Greene survived some shaky fielding by striking out three batters to record his sixth save. Detroit had lost the first two games of the four-game series.

### YANKEES 5, INDIANS 2

Sonny Gray pitched six effective innings as host New York capitalized on two errors by Cleveland shortstop Francisco Lindor. Gray (2-2) allowed two runs and four hits in a 93-pitch outing. It was the first time since joining the Yankees in a trade from Oakland on July 31 that the right-hander pitched at least six innings and allowed two or fewer runs. Trevor Bauer (2-3) retired the first 13 hitters before New York scored four runs in the fifth inning, helped by two errors by Lindor on one play.

### PHILLIES 3, NATIONALS 1

Rhys Hoskins hit a two-run homer two batters into the game, and Vince Velasquez gave up one hit in five innings in Philadelphia's victory at Washington. Hoskins hit his fifth homer of the season and Maikel Franco added an RBI single for the Phillies, who had lost five of six. Wilmer Difo homered for the Nationals, who had a six-game winning streak broken. Difo is 12-for-22 with two doubles, two

homers, four RBIs and eight runs in his past eight games. The Nationals had won seven of nine.

### PADRES 7, DODGERS 4

A day after San Diego was no-hit, Raffy Lopez hit a two-run homer in the sixth inning to help the Padres beat Los Angeles in Monterrey, Mexico. Mexico native Christian Villanueva drew a walk from Dodgers reliever Josh Fields (2-1) to open the Padres' sixth after the Dodgers had taken a 4-3 lead in the top of the inning. After Fields struck out Franchy Cordero, Lopez homered to right for his first hit of the season. The 30-year-old catcher was recalled from Triple-A El Paso Tuesday when Austin Hedges went on the disabled list with right elbow tendinitis.

### TWINS 8, WHITE SOX 4

Eddie Rosario went 4-for-5 with a double, a home run and five RBIs to match a career high as Minnesota rolled over host Chicago. Rosario's outburst provided more than enough run support for Lance Lynn (1-3), who earned his first win since signing a one-year deal with the Twins at the start of spring training. Lynn held the White Sox to two runs on eight hits, no walks and seven strikeouts in six innings. Minnesota has won back-to-back games and three of four.

### GIANTS 11, BRAVES 2

San Francisco finally provided some run support for starter Ty Blach and rolled past host Atlanta. Blach had received only 2.41 runs of support—the second-lowest average in the National League—but his teammates racked up 18 hits and a season-high 11 runs. The Giants have scored nine or more runs in three straight games and have won the first two games of the three-game series against the Braves. Blach (3-3) worked a season-high 7 2/3 innings and allowed two runs (one earned) on seven hits. He struck out two and did not walk a batter in posting his second straight win.

### MARLINS 6, REDS 0

Caleb Smith (2-3) pitched 5 2/3 scoreless innings as visiting Miami defeated Cincinnati. Starlin Castro and Justin Bour hit home runs to lead Miami's offense. Castro's blast was his 100th career home run, and he finished with three RBIs. Drew Steckenrider, Kyle Barraclough and Brad Ziegler completed the Marlins' four-hit shutout.

### ROCKIES 2, METS 0

Chad Bettis tossed seven scoreless innings, and Nolan Arenado's first-inning homer provided all the offense Colorado would need in shutting down host New York. The Rockies have won four straight. The Mets have lost five in a row and have been outscored 31-9 in the process. They have also lost 13 of their past 19. Bettis (4-1) allowed six hits and one walk while striking out two. His outing was the seventh straight quality start for the Rockies, whose rotation has a 1.62 ERA in the past 10 games.



SEATTLE: Mike Zunino #3 of the Seattle Mariners hits a two-run home run off of relief pitcher Justin Anderson #38 of the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim that also scored Ryon Healy #27 of the Seattle Mariners during the eighth inning of a game at Safeco Field in Seattle, Washington. — AFP

### RAYS 5, BLUE JAYS 3

Jake Faria pitched into the sixth inning, and host Tampa Bay took advantage of three errors by Toronto. Faria (3-1) allowed one run, three hits and walked one while striking out four in 5 1/3 innings for the Rays, who have won the first two games of the three-game series. Alex Colome pitched 1 2/3 perfect innings with two strikeouts to earn his sixth save. Teoscar Hernandez and Lourdes Gurriel Jr. homered for the Blue Jays. Toronto starter Aaron Sanchez (2-3) allowed four runs (two earned), five hits, four walks and struck out three in 3 2/3 innings.

### BREWERS 5, PIRATES 3

Ryan Braun, who came on as a pinch hitter in the seventh inning and struck out, hit a two-out, two-run double in the eighth inning to lift host Milwaukee past Pittsburgh. In a 3-3 tie in the eighth against reliever George Kontos (2-3), Braun, who has been nursing a calf injury, drove in Domingo Santana, who doubled to open the inning, and Eric Sogard, who drew a two-out walk. The Brewers will go for a weekend series win Sunday after dropping the opener. The Pirates have lost five of their past six overall and nine of their past 10 road games.

### RED SOX 6, RANGERS 5

Hanley Ramirez lifted a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the top of the ninth inning after Joe Kelly worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the eighth as Boston Red Sox edged host Texas. Kelly (1-0) entered with the bases-loaded in the eighth after the Red Sox intentionally walked Nomar Mazara. Kelly fanned Joey Gallo on a 98 mph fastball, and ended an 11-pitch at-bat by striking out Jurickson Profar looking on another 98 mph fastball. With one out in the

ninth off Keone Kela (2-2), Andrew Benintendi barely missed a homer and settled for a standup triple, his third hit of the game, off the right-center-field fence. Four pitches later, Ramirez lifted a fly ball to center field, and Benintendi easily scored when Delino Deshields Jr.'s throw went up the line.

### DIAMONDBACKS 4, ASTROS 3

A.J. Pollock hit a walk-off, bases-loaded single off Houston third baseman Alex Bregman's glove, and David Peralta homered for the host Diamondbacks, who broke a three-game losing streak. Jeff Mathis beat out a surprise bunt single down the third base line off Chris Devenski (1-1) to open the ninth. Deven Marrero then bunted, and pinch runner Jarrod Dyson was forced out at second. David Peralta fanned for the second out. Chris Owings and Paul Goldschmidt walked before Houston reliever Brad Peacock entered. Pollock hit Peacock's first pitch for a one-hopper toward the hole at short that kicked off Bregman's glove and into short left field.

### ATHLETICS 2, ORIOLES 0

Khris Davis ended a pitchers' duel with a two-run, walk-off home run in the bottom of the 12th inning, giving host Oakland a win over floundering Baltimore. What started as a classic showdown between Baltimore's Kevin Gausman and Oakland's Trevor Cahill ended as the As' Jed Lowrie lined a one-out single off Baltimore's third pitcher, Pedro Araujo (1-3), in the 12th. Davis then unloaded with his ninth home run of the season. Gausman blanked the As over a career-high nine innings, while Cahill fanned a career-best 12 in six shutout innings. The Orioles lost their fifth straight on a six-game trip that ends Sunday, and they have dropped 11 straight on the road. — Reuters



## The Rockies have won four straight

## Zverev beats Kohlschreiber to win Munich Open

MUNICH: Germany's world No.3 Alexander Zverev beat veteran compatriot Philipp Kohlschreiber 6-3, 6-3 to win the Munich ATP Open for a second consecutive year yesterday. The fresh-faced 21-year-old from Hamburg, who is coached by his father, beat Argentina's Guido Pella in the 2017 final. One year on and his victim was Kohlschreiber, a triple champion in Munich, who had not lost a single set coming through the rounds.

But the 34-year-old had two break points in the sixth game of the first set only to lose the game and then get broken in the next game. Zverev, the great hope of German tennis, then broke his older compatriot in the opening game of the second set and the top seed never looked back. "It is a very special event for me so I am very happy that I was able to defend my title," he said after his seventh ATP title. "I had to play my best tennis to have a chance, so that is what I did," said Zverev, a semi-finalist at the Monte Carlo Masters. "At the beginning I was struggling a little bit and then I found my rhythm and felt very good on court."

"Losing the final is never easy or fun," Kohlschreiber commented. "He (Zverev) played better in this final. He played a really good match. It was a great week for me and for sure I will be coming back next year." — AFP



Alexander Zverev



LONDON: Arsenal's French manager Arsene Wenger salutes the crowd as he arrives for the English Premier League football match between Arsenal and Burnley at the Emirates Stadium in London yesterday. — AFP

## Arsenal bid farewell to Wenger

LONDON: After 22 years as Arsenal manager, Arsene Wenger took charge of his final game at the Emirates stadium yesterday as Burnley visited North London for a day tinged with nostalgia for the Frenchman and the home support. Arsenal players and fans sported red t-shirts emblazoned with "Merci Arsene" (Thank you Arsene), whilst both teams formed a guard of honour for Wenger before kick-off.

Chants of "there is only one Arsene Wenger" rang around the 60,000 capacity stadium, which was far fuller than home league games in recent months as fans stayed away in protest at a poor season on the field. "I expect today will be dominated by sadness," wrote Wenger in his final programme notes.

"It's the end of a long story for me at Arsenal. But I will also feel grateful for having led this club - that I cherish so much - for such a long time." Wenger won three Premier Leagues and a record seven FA Cups. His crowning glory coming in the 2003/04 season when Arsenal won the

league without losing a single game.

"The Arsene Wenger era is one that Arsenal fans will never forget," said a special 60-page supplementary programme given to supporters. "Legendary games and players, including an 'Invincible' achievement that allows supporters to argue they've seen the greatest team English football has ever produced."

Before the game fans were encouraged to sign tribute book, which will be given to Wenger at the end of the season. "Overwhelmingly, the emotion is sadness, because it has been 20 years coming here, seeing him," Arsenal fan James Sherwan told AFP outside the Emirates. "I'm thirty. Since I was 10 he's been a manager, and it's a lot of good memories."

However, "The Invincibles" was the last time Arsenal won the league with supporters increasingly frustrated at the Gunners' inability to compete for Premier League and Champions League honours.

A 1-0 defeat to Atletico Madrid on Thursday in the Europa League semi-finals means that for the second consecutive season, Arsenal will not even qualify for the Champions League. "We were a bit short on finishing our chances, and also on our defensive focus," said Wenger in his programme notes on defeat in the Spanish capital. "That's the story we have seen so many times before this season." — AFP

## Spanish great Xavi to play on until at least end of year

DOHA: Legendary former Barcelona and Spain midfielder Xavi Hernandez has upset his own plans to retire and announced he will extend his career until at least the end of this year, he said yesterday.

Widely expected to end his illustrious playing career at the end of this season, the World Cup champion and four-times Champions League winner told AFP he feels fit enough to continue playing a little longer.

"I have decided to continue at least six months more," said the 38-year-old, who now plays for Qatari club Al Sadd. Asked why he was playing on, he replied: "Because it depends on my physical condition. Maybe in December I decide to continue."

The decision is unexpected as Xavi had signalled that the current season would be his last before he focuses on earning his coaching badges. He even spoke about not being about not being able to cope with the physical demands of professional football.

But he has now had a change of heart. Xavi, who won 133 caps for Spain, had been expected to take the reins at Al Sadd from next season and has been tipped to be the Qatar coach in 2022 when the Gulf state hosts the World Cup. The announcement that he will continue playing comes almost two decades to the day he made his first team debut for Barcelona against Leida back in 1998 and became synonymous with the club's tiki-taka style of play. He went on to make more than 700 appearances for the Catalan giants, winning eight La Liga titles and 31 trophies in all, which was a record when he left Spanish football in 2015 to move to the Gulf.

Xavi had already extended his original two-year contract to play this season and remains the biggest name in the Qatari domestic league. Although the league season has ended in Qatar-Al Sadd finished runners-up-Xavi is still involved in two cup competitions.

On Monday, Al Sadd play in Doha against Saudi Arabian side Al Ahli in the first leg of the AFC Champions League last 16. Later this week, Al Sadd will also play in the semi-final of Qatar's biggest domestic cup competition, the Emir Cup.

Xavi has so far added three more trophies to his collection while playing in the Gulf and is approaching playing 1,000 games throughout his long career. Since being in Qatar he has also been named as a global ambassador for the 2022 World Cup. — AFP