

Cano lifts Mariners over Astros with double in 9th

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Robinson Cano had three hits and his tiebreaking three-run double in the ninth inning lifted the Seattle Mariners to their fourth straight win, 6-3, over the Houston Astros on Thursday night. The bases were loaded

with one out in the ninth when Cano cleared them with his double off Luke Gregerson (0-1) that sailed just out of reach of center fielder Carlos Gomez.

Cano, who has at least two hits in five straight games, also drove in a run in the third inning to give him four RBIs and an American League-



leading 30 this season. Nick Vincent (2-1) pitched 1 2/3 scoreless innings for the win and Steve Cishek

allowed one hit in the ninth for his ninth save.

Jose Altuve homered and tied a career-high with four hits and had two RBIs for the Astros.

Tyler White snapped a 0 for 16 skid with a double to start Houston's seventh and Jason Castro walked with one out. Altuve hit a double,

which landed on Tal's Hill in center field, scoring White to tie it at 3-3, but Castro was tagged out at home.

Norichika Aoki greeted Tony Sipp with a single to load the bases in the seventh before Seth Smith's groundball single rolled just out of reach of a diving Altuve and into right field to score two and make it 3-2.

Altuve, who leads the Astros with nine homers, gave them an early lead when he sent Wade Miley's third pitch onto the train tracks atop left field for his second straight leadoff homer and major league-leading sixth this season. His six leadoff homers are the most by an Astro since Craig Biggio also had six in 2006.

CARTER: First practice on Aug. 1

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"It feels pretty good and it's definitely a big opportunity," Carter said. "This whole team will be a part of history no matter what, and it's cool to be a part of it."

Aside from Blue Mountain, Carter was actively recruited by numerous schools from the Pacific Northwest including Columbia Basin, Linfield College, and Walla Walla Community College. Carter said that she first developed interest in Blue Mountain when she found out the school was starting a women's soccer team, and then she became settled on the school once she took her visit.

"I always knew I wanted to be close to home," she said. "(Blue Mountain) was so welcoming, the campus was nice, and it just felt like a family."

Carter says she will enroll in Business Management courses at Blue Mountain as she aims to complete a business degree.

Hermiston's varsity soccer coach Danielle Turner said she was happy to see Carter continuing on with the sport.

"It's always nice to see as a coach, because a lot of kids don't get that opportunity,"



Contributed photo courtesy of Blaine Ganvoa

Hermiston senior Tyra Carter, right, poses along with Blue Mountain soccer coach Art Mota, left, after Carter became the first recruit in Blue Mountain history to sign with the women's soccer program on Friday in Hermiston.

Turner said. "But (Tyra) was always a hard worker and she was willing to do whatever it took for the team."

The Timberwolves program officially kicks off the season on Aug. 1 with the team's first practice under head coach Art Mota. Carter — who will slot in as a forward on the Timberwolves roster — said Mota is the type of coach she thinks she can excel under.

"He just seems like a really nice coach, but also determined to make us better," she said. "He lets us know that he wouldn't give up on us or the team. I was really sold after meeting with him."

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LYNCH: Finishes with 9,112 yards

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confirmed a day later that Lynch intended to retire.

Seattle made a series of moves this offseason that indicated the running back who led the Seahawks to their first Super Bowl title was ready to step away, including picking three running backs in the NFL draft last week. Lynch would have been an \$11.5 million cap hit if he remained on Seattle's roster for the 2016 season. The Seahawks will save \$6.5 million with Lynch's retirement.

Lynch has spent the offseason promoting his clothing line, traveling to Egypt to participate in a football camp and ride camels, and doing relief work in Haiti. Basically doing everything but get ready for the upcoming NFL season.

When Lynch was brought to Seattle early in the 2010 season, he was acquired because the Seahawks desperately needed a running back. What he ended up providing was an attitude and style that became the foundation for bringing that first Super Bowl title to the franchise.

And for that, Lynch will forever hold a special place with the Seahawks. He may have been more of a headache off the field than anyone let

on during his time in Seattle, but he'll ultimately be lauded as the running back that got the Seahawks to a place they had never been.

Lynch will step aside after nine seasons in the league. Six of those came in Seattle, where he played in the post-season five times. He's second all-time in Seattle history for rushing touchdowns and fourth in yards rushing. He tied for the NFL lead in rushing touchdowns in 2013 and 2014 and is No. 8 all-time in total yards rushing during the postseason. He was an All-Pro, a Pro Bowl selection, and perhaps the most revered Seahawks player in the opinion of their fans.

Lynch concluded his career with 9,112 yards rushing and 74 touchdowns in the regular season, and another nine touchdowns in the postseason. He caused seismic activity with his tackle-shedding run against New Orleans in the 2010 playoffs and was rarely brought down by just one defender.

"Since I've been here he's been the heart and soul, the engine of our offense. A vocal leader. A great influence and one of the best teammates I've ever had," Seattle wide receiver Doug Baldwin said last month of Lynch. "I can't

say enough about him."

Along with what Lynch provided on the field came his peculiarities when he wasn't carrying the ball. His contract disputes. His avoidance of the media. His memorable performances during two Super Bowl weeks that became as much a topic as the game itself: "I'm just here so I won't get fined." And during his injury-filled final season, ruling himself out of Seattle's NFC wild-card game at Minnesota just minutes before the team left for the airport.

There was almost certainly going to be a separation between Lynch and the Seahawks after the 2015 season for financial and evolutionary reasons. Seattle was always going to become Russell Wilson's team moving forward — the nature of a quarterback with a long-term contract agreement — and Wilson's performance last season showed the evolution was in process.

But Lynch's will always be responsible for setting the foundation for what coach Pete Carroll wanted to create with the Seahawks. "He's a dog. His whole demeanor," Seattle safety Earl Thomas said before Super Bowl 49. "He's a man (among) boys out there."

LILLARD: Scored 51 against Warriors in February win

Continued from 1B

loss in Game 2 on Tuesday night, including 17 points in the third quarter. But the Warriors held him scoreless (0-for-3 from the field) in the crucial final period when they came from behind to win, outscoring Portland 34-12. Portland only scored six points over the last 5:21.

With a day off on Wednesday, Lillard let the loss digest.

"After the game I was pretty frustrated by not being able to finish that game. Yesterday I didn't even want to see a basketball," he said. "I wasn't even gonna watch the playoff game until I heard Cleveland was hitting a bunch of 3s. So I wanted to see for myself, but I didn't even want to have nothing to do with basketball after that game."

In the series opener, Lillard started cold but eventually scored 30 points in a

118-106 loss. The Oakland native admitted later to battling a cold afterward. On Thursday, he said he was healthy.

Lillard made a playoff splash in 2014 when his buzzer-beating 3-pointer against the Rockets sent the Blazers into the second round for the first time in 14 years.

But he was the lone starter left with the Blazers this season after the departures of LaMarcus Aldridge, Nicolas Batum, Robin Lopez and Wesley Matthews. Some expected the Blazers to only win about two dozen games.

Lillard tends to rise when he's the underdog, however. Led by Lillard and backcourt teammate CJ McCollum, a first-year starter, the Blazers overcame a 2-10 stretch in November to wind up the fifth seed in the West.

A two-time All-Star, Lillard was snubbed this year. How did he respond? By

dropping 51 points, including nine 3-pointers, in a 137-105 victory over — wait for it — the Golden State Warriors. Lillard shot over Curry at will in that Feb. 19 victory, one of just nine losses for the Warriors in a record-setting 73-win season.

Knowing the Blazers are capable will be key Saturday night.

"We'll have bounce. We came back after 0-2 against the Clippers (in the opening round) and came with a lot of energy in Game 3. We know how important Game 3 is," Blazers coach Terry Stotts said. "Having energy, having bounce, at the Moda Center, with our crowd? That's the least of our concerns."

Lillard also struggled in the opening two games against the Clippers in the first round. Portland came back to win the next four to win the series, but the Clippers were hurt when their top

two scorers, Chris Paul and Blake Griffin, were knocked out with injuries.

The Warriors also get credit for Lillard's struggles after making defensive adjustments on both Lillard and McCollum, particularly the play of Festus Ezeli.

"They are so explosive and they run really good stuff, I mean, it's hard to guard. You have to cover a lot of floor against Portland, and I thought between Festus and Draymond (Green), those guys did a great job of protecting the feed and moving and handling the pick-and-roll on top," said Warriors coach Steve Kerr.

Lillard said the Blazers would learn from it. "It hurts to go back in the locker room after you play so well for so long and you come back in there with the L. But it is a part of growth," he said. "The entire season has been growth for us."

Athlete of the Week

Twenty questions with Hermiston's Chase Root

East Oregonian

HERMISTON — Senior Chase Root struck out eight batters and allowed just two hits and one run over seven innings in a 9-1 win over Hood River on April 26 that kept Hermiston's league title hopes alive. For his efforts, Root has been selected as the Athlete of the Week.

- East Oregonian: Favorite pro sports team?**
Chase Root: Boston Red Sox
- Favorite college sports team?**
North Carolina Tar Heels
- Favorite athlete to watch?**
Dustin Pedroia
- Favorite sports memory at Hermiston?**
Being a part of R.J. Robles' perfect game this season.
- Favorite movie?**
Billy Madison
- Favorite TV show?**
Family Guy

- Celebrity Crush?**
Jennifer Aniston
- XBOX or Playstation?**
Xbox
- Favorite video game?**
Call of Duty: Black Ops
- Favorite music genre?**
Country
- Favorite musical artist?**
Willy Nelson
- Favorite restaurant?**
Hooters
- Favorite snack food?**
Jerky
- Favorite beverage?**
Dr. Pepper
- Favorite Gatorade flavor?**
Strawberry
- Favorite family recipe?**
Homemade pizza
- Favorite subject in school?**
History
- Dream job?**
Hunting guide
- Favorite animals to hunt?**
Deer and Elk in archery season
- If you could have any super power what would it be?**
X-Ray vision

SCOREBOARD

Local Slate

PREP BASEBALL
Today
Stanfield at Nyssa (DH), 1/3 p.m.
Umatilla at Riverside (DH), 1/3 p.m.
Grant Union at Weston-McEwen (DH), 1/3 p.m.
Hood River at Pendleton, 4:30 p.m.
Hermiston at The Dalles, 4 p.m.
Saturday
Union at Pilot Rock (DH), 11 a.m./1 p.m.
Heppner at Sherman (DH), 11 a.m./1 p.m.

PREP SOFTBALL

Today
Umatilla at Riverside (DH), 1/3 p.m.
Elgin at Weston-McEwen (DH), 1/3 p.m.
Hood River at Pendleton, 4:30 p.m.
Hermiston at The Dalles, 4 p.m.
Saturday
Pilot Rock at Union (DH), 11 a.m./1 p.m.
Irrigon at Heppner (DH), 11 a.m./1 p.m.
Echo at Nyssa, 2 p.m.

PRETRACK & FIELD

Today
Umatilla, McMellen, Pilot Rock, Weston-McEwen, Heppner, Helix, Echo, Stanfield at Baker City, 1 p.m.
Pendleton, Hermiston at Hood River, 4 p.m.
Saturday
Irrigon at Gilchrist, 11 a.m.

PREP GOLF

Today
Pendleton, Hermiston (boys) at Districts (Eagle Crest Resort), 11 a.m.

PREP TENNIS

Today
Pendleton (boys) at Hermiston, 4 p.m.
Hermiston (girls) at Pendleton, 4 p.m.
Saturday
Weston-McEwen, Helix, Ione at Districts (at Kennewick, Wash.), 9 a.m.

PREP LACROSSE

Saturday
Central Valley (WA) at Hermiston, 2 p.m.

PREP RUGBY

Saturday
West Linn at East Oregon, 1:30 p.m.
Canby at East Oregon, 3:30 p.m.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Saturday
Spokane at Blue Mountain (DH), 1/4 p.m.

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Today
Eastern Oregon vs. Corban (at Ashland), 9 a.m.
Big Bend at Blue Mountain (DH), 2/4 p.m.
Saturday
Columbia Basin at Blue Mountain (DH), Noon/2 p.m.

Basketball

NBA PLAYOFFS
CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
(best-of-7)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Cleveland 2, Atlanta 0
Monday: Cleveland 104, Atlanta 93
Wednesday: Cleveland 123, Atlanta 98
Today: Cleveland at Atlanta, 4 p.m. (ESPN)
Miami 1, Toronto 1
Tuesday: Miami 102, Toronto 96, OT
Thursday: Toronto 96, Miami 92, OT
Saturday: Toronto at Miami, 2 p.m. (ESPN)
WESTERN CONFERENCE
San Antonio 1, Oklahoma City 1
Saturday: April 30: San Antonio 124, Oklahoma City 92
Monday: Oklahoma City 98, San Antonio 97
Today: San Antonio at Oklahoma City, 6:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Golden State 2, Portland 0
Sunday, May 1: Golden State 118, Portland 106
Tuesday: Golden State 110, Portland 99
Saturday: Golden State at Portland, 5:30 p.m. (ABC)

Hockey

NHL PLAYOFFS
SECOND ROUND
(best-of-7)
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Tampa Bay 2, N.Y. Islanders 1
April 27: N.Y. Islanders 5, Tampa Bay 3
April 30: Tampa Bay 4, NY Islanders 1
Tuesday: Tampa Bay 5, NY Islanders 4, OT
Today: Tampa Bay at NY Islanders, 4 p.m. (NBCSN)
Pittsburgh 3, Washington 1
April 28: Washington 4, Pittsburgh 3, OT
April 30: Pittsburgh 2, Washington 1
Monday: Pittsburgh 3, Washington 2
Wednesday: Pittsburgh 3, Washington 2, OT
Saturday, May 7: Pittsburgh at Washington, 4:15 p.m. (NBC)
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Dallas 2, St. Louis 2
April 29: Dallas 2, St. Louis 1
May 1: St. Louis 4, Dallas 3, OT
Tuesday: St. Louis 6, Dallas 1
Thursday: Dallas 3, St. Louis 2, OT
Saturday: St. Louis at Dallas, 10 a.m. (NBC)
San Jose 2, Nashville 1
April 29: San Jose 5, Nashville 2
May 1: San Jose 3, Nashville 2
Tuesday: Nashville 4, San Jose 1
Thursday: San Jose at Nashville, late
Saturday: Nashville at San Jose, 7 p.m. (NBCSN)

Baseball

MLB
AMERICAN LEAGUE
East Division
W L Pct GB
Boston 17 11 .607 —
Baltimore 16 11 .593 ½
Toronto 15 15 .500 3
Tampa Bay 12 14 .462 4

New York 9 17 .346 7
Central Division
W L Pct GB
Chicago 19 10 .679 —
Cleveland 13 12 .520 4
Kansas City 14 13 .519 4
Detroit 14 13 .519 4
Minnesota 8 20 .286 10½
West Division
W L Pct GB
Seattle 17 11 .607 —
Texas 15 14 .517 2½
Los Angeles 13 15 .464 4
Oakland 13 16 .448 4½
Houston 10 19 .345 7½

Thursday's Games
Cleveland 9, Detroit 4
Baltimore 1, N.Y. Yankees 0, 10 innings
Toronto 12, Texas 2
Boston 7, Chicago White Sox 3
Seattle 6, Houston 3
Today's Games
Boston (Porcello 5-0) at N.Y. Yankees (Pineda 1-3), 4:05 p.m.
Oakland (Hill 3-3) at Baltimore (Wright 1-2), 4:05 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 3-1) at Toronto (Stroman 4-0), 4:07 p.m.
Kansas City (Ventura 2-1) at Cleveland (Salazar 2-2), 4:10 p.m.
Texas (Harnels 3-0) at Detroit (Zimmerman 5-0), 4:10 p.m.
Minnesota (Nolasco 1-0) at Chicago White Sox (Latos 4-0), 5:10 p.m.
Seattle (Walker 2-1) at Houston (Fister 2-3), 5:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Archer 1-4) at L.A. Angels (Rasmus 0-1), 7:05 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
East Division
W L Pct GB
Washington 19 9 .679 —
New York 17 9 .654 1
Miami 15 12 .556 3½
Philadelphia 16 13 .552 3½
Atlanta 7 20 .259 11½
Central Division
W L Pct GB
Chicago 21 6 .778 —
Pittsburgh 15 13 .536 6½

St. Louis 15 14 .517 7
Cincinnati 12 17 .414 10
Milwaukee 11 17 .393 10½
West Division
W L Pct GB
San Francisco 15 14 .517 —
Los Angeles 14 14 .500 ½
Colorado 13 14 .481 1
Arizona 12 18 .400 3½
San Diego 11 17 .393 3½

Thursday's Games
St. Louis 4, Philadelphia 0
Cincinnati 9, Milwaukee 5
Miami 4, Arizona 0
Chicago Cubs 5, Washington 2
N.Y. Mets at San Diego, late
Colorado at San Francisco, late
Today's Games
Washington (Scherzer 3-1) at Chicago Cubs (Lackey 3-1), 11:20 a.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 3-1) at Toronto (Stroman 4-0), 4:07 p.m.
Milwaukee (Cravy 0-0) at Cincinnati (Adlerman 0-0), 4:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Velasquez 4-1) at Miami (Chen 2-1), 4:10 p.m.
Arizona (Greinke 2-2) at Atlanta (Blair 0-1), 4:35 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Liriano 2-1) at St. Louis (Martinez 4-1), 5:15 p.m.
Colorado (Betts 3-1) at San Francisco (Bumgarner 3-2), 7:15 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Syndergaard 2-1) at San Diego (Pomeranz 2-3), 7:40 p.m.

Soccer

MLS
Today's Game
New York at Orlando City, 4 p.m.
Saturday's Games
Portland at Vancouver, 2 p.m.
Montreal at Columbus, 4:30 p.m.
FC Dallas at Toronto FC, 4:30 p.m.
Sporting Kansas City at Houston, 5:30 p.m.
Real Salt Lake at Colorado, 6 p.m.
San Jose at Seattle, 7 p.m.

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

CHASE ROOT

Senior Hermiston Baseball

Chase pitched seven innings and struck out eight batters while allowing just two hits and one run to help the Bulldogs upset the Hood River Valley Eagles 9-1 on April 26.

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