



AP Photo/Jim Mone

Seattle Mariners pitcher James Paxton throws against the Minnesota Twins in the first inning of Thursday's baseball game in Minneapolis.

Power fuels Twins in comeback win versus Mariners in cold opener

By DAVE CAMPBELL
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Mitch Garver hit the go-ahead home run in the seventh for Minnesota, one inning after Miguel Sano tied the game with a two-run shot as the Twins powered their way past the Seattle Mariners for a 4-2 victory in their chilly home opener on Thursday afternoon.

Eddie Rosario went deep in the eighth to pad the lead, and Fernando Rodney worked the ninth for his first save with the Twins. That capped a stretch of 4 2/3 scoreless innings by the bullpen in relief of Kyle Gibson.

Zach Duke (1-0) picked up the victory, and Addison Reed striking out two in a perfect eighth.

James Paxton started strong for the Mariners with five scoreless innings after a first-pitch temperature of 38 degrees.

The remarkable poise shown by Paxton was challenged in the sixth, when Joe Mauer started with a single. Sano followed with a drive into the second deck, the only one of Minnesota's 12 home runs this season that has come with a runner on base.

Rodney, who gave up the game-winning home run on opening day at Baltimore last week in the 11th inning, walked Dee Gordon to start the ninth. Gordon stole second base as Jean Segura struck out. Rodney retired the next two on a grounder and a line drive, giving the sellout crowd of 39,214 at Target Field the chance to see the 41-year-old's signature arrow-shooting move after a successful save.

Garver's drive, his first major league homer,

reached the second deck, too, against Dan Altavilla (0-1).

Gibson beat the Orioles last week with six hitless innings, but he was behind 2-0 after the first against the Mariners following consecutive singles by Gordon and Segura to begin the game. Mitch Haniger drove in Gordon on a grounder to third, where Sano threw wildly past Garver on the attempt to get the runner at the plate. Then Daniel Vogelbach sent Segura home with a two-out single.

The sun was shining for the first half of the game, making the conditions more tolerable than anticipated following an early-spring storm that dumped about 8 inches of wet snow on Target Field until ceasing on Tuesday night. Twins employees brought shovels to the ballpark on Wednesday to help clear the playing surface.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Mariners: DH Nelson Cruz, on the DL with a sprained right ankle, is rid of the swelling but has yet to resume baseball activities, manager Scott Servais said.

Twins: RHP Ervin Santana, on the DL following surgery on his middle finger, is behind the original schedule for recovery. The club is considering another medical examination for the ace, manager Paul Molitor said.

UP NEXT

Mariners: RHP Mike Leake (1-0, 2.57 ERA) is scheduled to start on Saturday afternoon.

Twins: RHP Jose Berrios (1-0, 0.00 ERA) is slated to take the mound for the middle game of the series.



Curtis Compton/Atlanta Journal-Constitution via AP

Tony Finau chips at the flag from the gallery to the 18th green during the first round at the Masters golf tournament Thursday in Augusta, Ga.

Tony Finau deals with shame, pain, fame during Masters debut

By MARK LONG
Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Tony Finau's last 24 hours included a little bit of everything: Pain. Embarrassment. Concern. Relief. Determination. Excitement.

The 28-year-old American with Samoan roots battled through a severely sprained ankle and shot a 4-under 68 in the opening round at the Masters. How he injured it was somewhat comical, albeit painful to watch. How he overcame it was downright extraordinary.

"You can't make that up," he said.

It was one of the best — certainly most unpredictable — story lines of the tournament's first day.

Finau dislocated his left ankle celebrating a hole-in-one during the Par-3 Contest on Wednesday and then popped it back into place. X-rays were negative. Finau had an early morning MRI on Thursday to determine whether he could make his Masters debut.

Doctors cleared him to play, and his ankle was tightly taped as he headed to the practice range. No pain-numbing shots or pills. Just pure grit.

"I was just extremely happy that nothing was seriously wrong with my foot," he said. "Quite honestly, it was a pretty cool moment followed by probably one of my most embarrassing

Tiger Woods plods through his 1st Masters round since 2015

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — The first standing ovation came on the practice range.

There was more applause when he strolled to the 18th green, though most of the patrons stayed in their fold-out seats.

Tiger Woods is back at the Masters.

Just not in the position so many of his fans were hoping he would be.

Woods plodded through an unspectacular opening round on Thursday, settling for a 1-over 73 that left him far off the lead but still feeling good about his chances.

Spieth back in his comfort zone

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Tiger Woods attracted most of the attention. Jordan Spieth caused the most concern.

Opening day at the Masters had a wide-open feel until Spieth hit his stride Thursday afternoon. He saved three straight pars with that superb short game. He ran off three straight birdies to take the lead. And then he fired an 8-iron at the pin on the par-3 16th, letting the club twirl through his hands as he walked away, knowing only that it was another good one. It plopped down 5 feet away.

moments and a scary moment at the same time. It was quite crazy, all the emotions that I dealt with overnight, but I was more than ecstatic to just be walking to that first tee and be playing in my first Masters."

His swollen ankle didn't feel quite right, and he found himself compensating on certain shots. Simply put, he couldn't put his full weight on that foot — a huge concern for a guy known as one of the PGA Tour's longer hitters.

"The one thing we can't do is hurt it more," he said. "So

the No. 1 thing for me was my health and trying to take care of the next few days and not just worry about the now. It definitely hurt at different points of the round."

It felt a whole lot better when he birdied five of 12 holes to get to 4 under. He missed a short par putt at the par-4 No. 14 or else his round could have been even better. Still, he got it right back with a birdie at the par-5 15th.

He finished tied for second with Matt Kuchar, two shots behind leader Jordan Spieth.

No one could have expected it after watching Finau gingerly climbed into a golf cart after his exhibition ended early the day before.

The ordeal started when Finau flew the back of the seventh green on Augusta National's par-3 course and spun it back into the hole for an ace. He started running — a forbidden act on these hallowed grounds — toward the hole to celebrate. His issue came when he turned and backpedaled. He landed awkwardly on his left ankle, which grotesquely displaced. He dropped to one knee and ended up pushing the joint back into place.

"I saw where it was and I knew where it needed to be," he said. "Instinctively, I just tried. If it didn't work, then I would have laid there and been even more embarrassed being pulled out on a stretcher celebrating a hole-in-one."

It was the 12th ace of his life, but first in front of his wife and kids, and it came in his first Par-3 Contest.

"It's just a spur-of-the-moment thing," he said. "I have no idea why I just started sprinting. I saw (the ball) disappear. It was my first Par-3 Contest, my first Masters, I made a hole in one, so there was a lot that went into that. I just took off."

"I'm probably not a great (defensive back), doing the backpedalling, so I won't be doing that the rest of my career."

SCOREBOARD

Local state

PREP BASEBALL

Friday	W	L	Pct	GB
Burns at Stanfield (DH), 1 p.m.	43	36	544	—
Umatilla at Irrigon (DH), 1 p.m.	42	37	532	1
Heritage (WA) at Hermiston (DH), 2 p.m.	34	45	430	9
Riverside at Nyssa (DH), 2 p.m.	24	54	308	18½

Saturday

Union at Weston-McEwen (DH), 11 a.m.	22	57	278	21
MacHi at Baker (DH), 12 p.m.	—	—	—	—
Pilot Rock at Elgin (DH), 1 p.m.	—	—	—	—

PREP SOFTBALL

Friday	W	L	Pct	GB
Sherwood at Hermiston, 4 p.m.	49	30	620	2
Irrigon at Hood River JV, 4 p.m.	47	32	595	2
Chicago	42	37	532	7
Detroit	37	41	474	11½
Chicago	27	51	346	21½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Houston	64	15	810	—
San Antonio	45	34	570	19
New Orleans	44	34	564	19½
Dallas	24	55	304	40
Memphis	21	57	269	42½

Northwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Portland	48	31	608	—
Umatilla	46	33	582	2
Oklahoma City	45	34	570	3
Denver	44	35	557	4
Minnesota	44	35	557	4

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
y-Golden State	57	22	722	—
L.A. Clippers	42	37	532	15
L.A. Lakers	34	44	436	22½
Sacramento	25	54	316	32
Phoenix	20	59	253	37

PREP TRACK & FIELD

Friday	W	L	Pct	GB
Riverside, Umatilla, Stanfield, Heppner, Pilot Rock, Arlington at Riverside Relays, 4:30 p.m.	—	—	—	—

Saturday

Heppler at Grant Union (DH), 11 a.m.	—	—	—	—
Enterprise at Echo (DH), 11 a.m.	—	—	—	—
MacHi at Baker (DH), 12 p.m.	—	—	—	—
Hermiston at Central Catholic (DH), 12:30 p.m.	—	—	—	—

PREP GOLF

Friday	W	L	Pct	GB
Pendleton (girls) at Juniper Golf Course, 8:30 a.m.	—	—	—	—
Hermiston at Eagle Crest Resort, 8:30 a.m.	—	—	—	—

PREP TENNIS

Friday	W	L	Pct	GB
Pendleton at Rex Putnam, 3 p.m.	—	—	—	—
MacHi at Riverside, 3:30 p.m.	—	—	—	—
Condon/Wheeler, Stanfield at Umatilla, 3:30 p.m.	—	—	—	—
Sherman at Lone, 4 p.m.	—	—	—	—
Riverside at Helix, 12 p.m.	—	—	—	—

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Saturday	W	L	Pct	GB
BMCC at Walla Walla CC (DH), 1 p.m.	—	—	—	—

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Friday	W	L	Pct	GB
EOU at Northwest (DH), 11 a.m.	—	—	—	—
Saturday	—	—	—	—
EOU at Northwest (DH), 10 a.m.	—	—	—	—
Columbia Basin at BMCC (DH), 12 p.m.	—	—	—	—

Basketball

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Toronto	56	22	718	—
x-Boston	53	25	679	3

x-Philadelphia	48	30	615	8
New York	27	51	346	29
Brooklyn	26	53	329	30½

Southwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Miami	43	36	544	—
x-Washington	42	37	532	1
Charlotte	34	45	430	9
Orlando	24	54	308	18½
Atlanta	22	57	278	21

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Cleveland	49	30	620	2
x-Indiana	47	32	595	2
x-Milwaukee	42	37	532	7
Detroit	37	41	474	11½
Chicago	27	51	346	21½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Houston	64	15	810	—
San Antonio	45	34	570	19
New Orleans	44	34	564	19½
Dallas	24	55	304	40
Memphis	21	57	269	42½

Northwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
x-Portland	48	31	608	—
Umatilla	46	33	582	2
Oklahoma City	45	34	570	3
Denver	44	35	557	4
Minnesota	44	35	557	4

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
y-Golden State	57	22	722	—
L.A. Clippers	42	37	532	15
L.A. Lakers	34	44	436	22½
Sacramento	25	54	316	32
Phoenix	20	59	253	37

Thursday's Games

Indiana 126, Golden State 106	115	263	209
Brooklyn 119, Milwaukee 111	112	273	217
Cleveland 119, Washington 115	111	263	209
Houston 96, Portland 94	93	252	235
Utah 117, L.A. Clippers 95	92	221	247
Denver 100, Minnesota 96	93	252	235

Friday's Games

Atlanta at Washington, 4 p.m.	—	—	—
Charlotte at Orlando, 4 p.m.	—	—	—
Cleveland at Philadelphia, 4 p.m.	—	—	—
Dallas at Detroit, 4 p.m.	—	—	—
Chicago at Boston, 4:30 p.m.	—	—	—
Indiana at Toronto, 4:30 p.m.	—	—	—
Miami at New York, 4:30 p.m.	—	—	—
Sacramento at Memphis, 5 p.m.	—	—	—
New Orleans at Phoenix, 7 p.m.	—	—	—
Minnesota at L.A. Lakers, 7:30 p.m.	—	—	—

Thursday's Games

Pittsburgh 5, Columbus 4, OT	10	100	249	223
Nashville 4, Washington 3	9	98	237	199
Philadelphia 4, Carolina 3	8	93	227	213
New Jersey 2, Toronto 1	8	93	227	213
N.Y. Islanders 2, N.Y. Rangers 1	8	93	227	213
Montreal 4, Detroit 3	8	93	227	213
Florida 3, Boston 2	8	93	227	213
Edmonton 81, 35	10	100	249	223
Winnipeg 2, Calgary 1	10	100	249	223
Edmonton 4, Vegas 3	10	100	249	223
Vancouver 4, Arizona 3, OT	10	100	249	223
Los Angeles 5, Minnesota 4, OT	10	100	249	223
San Jose 4, Colorado 2	10	100	249	223

Friday's Games

Ottawa at Pittsburgh, 4:30 p.m.	—	—	—
Buffalo at Tampa Bay, 4:30 p.m.	—	—	—
St. Louis at Chicago, 5:30 p.m.	—	—	—
Dallas at Anaheim, 7 p.m.	—	—	—

Detroit	81	30	39	12	72	214	251
Montreal	81	29	39	13	71	2	