

Luck makes return as Colts beat Seahawks

SEATTLE (AP) — Andrew Luck returned to game action for the first time since the final week of the 2016 season, leading Indianapolis on a pair of field-goal drives in just over a quarter in the Colts’ 19-17 victory over the Seattle Seahawks on Thursday night.



Luck

The reintroduction of Luck as the Colts’ leader started with a 17-yard swing pass to Marlon Mack on the first play. It concluded early in the second quarter when his pass intended for T.Y. Hilton was broken up. In between, Luck was bear-hugged by Seattle All-Pro linebacker Bobby Wagner on a scramble run, sacked by Rasheem Green, and also showed flashes his surgically repaired right shoulder is ready to allow him to again be a premier quarterback.

Luck completed 6 of 9 passes for 64 yards, most of that coming on the opening drive when he hit 5 of

7. Luck completed passes to five receivers and threw from a clean pocket on most of his dropbacks, even with starting left tackle Anthony Castonzo not playing.

It had been nearly 600 days since Luck was last on the field, when he threw for 321 yards in a 24-20 win over Jacksonville on Jan. 1, 2017. For one night, Luck looked like his pre-surgery form.

Adam Vinatieri made field goals of 33, 51 and 45 yards in the first half, and Michael Badgley’s 34-yarder late in the third quarter gave Indianapolis a 12-10 lead. Phillip Walker added a 10-yard TD pass to Darrell Daniels early in the fourth quarter.

Luck’s counterpart from the 2012 draft, Russell Wilson, played one series for Seattle. Wilson was 4 of 5 for 43 yards and capped his only drive with a 5-yard touchdown pass to tight end Nick Vannett.

Mariners jump on Verlander early

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
AP Sports Writer

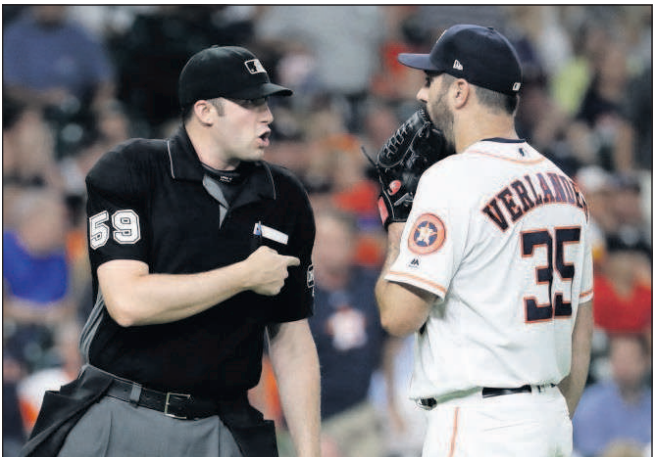
HOUSTON — Mitch Haniger homered while Seattle jumped on Justin Verlander for six runs in two innings, and the Mariners beat the Houston Astros 8-6 on Thursday night.

Haniger, Denard Span and Jean Segura combined for 10 hits and seven RBIs with a homer each off Verlander.

Verlander (11-7) was ejected for arguing a balk call after setting a season high for runs allowed. He failed hard in his bid for his 200th career victory.

James Paxton (10-5) continued his success against the Astros, yielding seven hits and four runs in 5 2/3 innings to improve to 4-0 against them this season. Edwin Diaz allowed a home run to Tyler White with two outs in the ninth before striking out Josh Reddick for his 43rd save.

Haniger had a season-high four hits with two RBIs, Span had three RBIs and finished a double shy of the cycle and Segura added three hits and drove in two runs.



AP Photo/David J. Phillip

Houston Astros starting pitcher Justin Verlander talks with home plate umpire Nic Lentz after being called for a balk during the second inning.

MLB



Mariners

8



Astros

6

Haniger gave the Mariners their first leadoff homer this season when he sent a fastball from Verlander into left-center field. Span followed with his second career triple off Verlander before Segura hit a ground-rule double and Nelson Cruz added an RBI single to make it 3-0.

Verlander retired the next

five batters before Haniger doubled with two outs in the second. He looked to have been picked off at second with Span batting, but Verlander was instead called for a balk.

Verlander barked at home plate umpire Nic Lentz and kept repeating: “I did not,” before throwing his next pitch. Span and Segura then hit back-to-back homers to push the lead to 6-0. Verlander retired Cruz before getting tossed.

Verlander has been up and down in his last few starts and has allowed 10

RODEO: Hass continues success in Eastern Oregon

Continued from 1B

and Teri Bangart of Olympia with 17.34 seconds.

Minor comes from a family of rodeo athletes, including her husband Riley and her two sisters Jade and Callahan. Minor has been involved in the rodeo for as long as she can remember, and was happy to win in front of her hometown.

“It’s fun when it works — I’ve been riding here for at least seven years, and you don’t always win,” she said.

Minor currently holds the No. 3 spot on the Columbia River Circuit. Tonight, she edged out the No. 1 and No. 2 contenders Allan and Bangart.

“I wish it was over already,” she said. “The competition is tough. You can’t get your hopes up. There’s always room for improvement.”

Minor isn’t the only one in the family who will ride on Farm-City grounds this weekend — her cousins Mary Shae Hays and Blake Knowles compete on Friday night, and her husband and his brother Brady will team rope on Saturday.

“I’m sure they’re just as excited about my win tonight as I am,” she said. “It’s a big family deal.”

Bull riding

Brady Portenier came to the Farm-City Pro Rodeo on Thursday in search of a good ride and a good payout, as the Idaho bull rider is 23rd in the world standings and more than \$18,000 out of the final NFR qualifying spot.

He likely got just what he came for as he rode Flight Plan from Kessler Rodeo for 85.5 points, shooting him to the top of the leaderboard and earning him the \$100 bonus and bottle of Chute 8 whiskey. However, Portenier leaves Hermiston with

something he didn’t want: a likely concussion.

As the eight-second horn sounded, Portenier, a Caldwell, Idaho native, slid down in his stance and got bucked off kind of awkwardly and slammed down to the ground. As he lay on the ground, he narrowly missed the back hooves of the bull stomping down as the bull fighters stepped in to help, though his coveted cowboy hat did take a bit of a beating.

“I just kind of slid down in the well, what we call it, in the center of the ride,” Portenier said. “And then I just hit the ground pretty hard and rung my bell.”

Portenier held off Walla Walla rider Derek Kolbaba and Garrett Smith of Rexburg, Idaho, both of whom rode for 84.5 points to tie for second place on the night and for the round so far.

Tie-down Roping

Ty Harris won a bottle of Chute 8 whiskey for winning the night’s tie-down roping event, even if he isn’t old enough to drink it yet.

At just 20 years old, the San Angelo, Texas cowboy is already the 2018 college national champion, and tied down his Farm-City calf in just 8.6 seconds — the only contestant of the night to finish with a sub-10-second time. Runners-up included Seth Hopper of Stanfield in 10.0 seconds and Colton Farquer of Oakdale, California in 10.2 seconds.

After getting no time in that afternoon’s slack, Harris is much happier with his results in the main event.

“This season hasn’t quite been what I wanted it to be,” he said. “But it feels great to be here, and I’m glad to be in the company of good friends and given the chance to win.”

Most cowboys who Harris competed alongside are



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Clayton Hass of Weatherford, Texas, pulls down his steer in 4.2 seconds in steer wrestling Thursday at the Farm-City Pro Rodeo in Hermiston.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Ty Harris of San Angelo, Texas, ropes his calf in 8.6 second in tie down roping.

much older than him, and he’s taking the opportunity to learn as much as he can from them.

“These guys are pros,” he said. “They can do it just as fast as I can, it just depends on the experience and the draw.”

When he’s not touring the country competing in

rodeos, Harris attends Cisco College in Texas, where he’ll be a sophomore this fall. He says he hope he’s making his friends and family back home proud.

“They’ve seen the hours I put in,” he said. “My mom, dad, siblings, and granny are all home watching. I want to be able to ride as I

long as I can. I’m grateful I can do what I love.”

Farquer and Hopper now sit No. 1-2 in the average standings with times of 20.4 and 20.7, respectively.

Steer Wrestling

Eastern Oregon has been nice to Texas cowboy Clayton Hass over the past few years.

In 2016, Hass won the steer wrestling title at Farm-City and in 2017 Hass won the all-around titles at both Farm-City and the Pendleton Round-Up right down the road. On Thursday night, Hass added to his successes by winning the steer wrestling performance with a time of 4.2 seconds to take home the \$100 bonus and bottle of Chute 8 whiskey.

“Maybe it’s because it’s so dang hot around here, makes me feel like I’m home in Texas,” Hass joked. “I was home for a few days and I thought it felt hotter here today. But I’ve had some success here throughout my career in Hermiston, I guess these steers just set

up and fit my style.”

Hass’ time puts him in a tie for fifth in the round. He also turned in a time of 4.7 seconds in slack earlier in the day, giving him an average of 8.9 seconds that places him in third overall. Those times give him a good chance for a good payout, which he needs as he currently sits 26th in the world standings more than \$14,000 below the cutoff line to qualify for the NFR.

“I’m kind of in a spot where I don’t need to be, chasing,” he said, “but hopefully a good few weeks and I can get back in the mix of it.”

Stanfield’s Travis Taruscio finished with the second-best score of the night with 4.3 seconds.

Team Roping

After a lackluster first night with only one qualified time, team roping competition heated up on Thursday.

The team of Blake Teixeira (Tres Pinos, California) and Jordan Ketscher (Squaw Valley, California) set the bar for the night at 5.2 seconds as the first team out of the gates, and their score held up to earn the nightly \$100 bonus and bottle of Chute 8 whiskey.

The duo barely beat out the team of Dillon Holyfield (Lewiston, Idaho) and Hermiston’s BJ Roberts’ 5.3 seconds. Holyfield and Roberts are one of only two teams so far to have qualifying times on two head, and sit second in the average standings with 16.4 seconds on two. The top team in the average also went on Thursday, with Chris McKoen (Merrill, Oregon) and Quade Patzke (Klamath Falls, Oregon) scoring 6.1 seconds in the nightly performance and 6.0 seconds in slack for an average of 12.1 on two.

SCOREBOARD

Baseball

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL				
American League				
East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	81	35	.698	—
New York	72	42	.632	8
Tampa Bay	58	57	.504	22½
Toronto	52	62	.456	28
Baltimore	35	80	.304	45½
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	64	50	.561	—
Minnesota	53	61	.465	11
Detroit	47	68	.409	17½
Chicago	41	73	.360	23
Kansas City	35	79	.307	29
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	73	43	.629	—
Oakland	68	47	.591	4½
Seattle	66	50	.569	7
Los Angeles	58	58	.500	15
Texas	51	66	.436	22½
Thursday's Games				
Cleveland 5, Minnesota 4				
N.Y. Yankees 7, Texas 3				
Toronto 8, Boston 5				
Tampa Bay 5, Baltimore 4				
Seattle 8, Houston 6				
Friday's Games				
Boston (Eovaldi 5-4) at Baltimore (Bundy 7-10), 4:05 p.m.				
Texas (Minor 8-6) at N.Y. Yankees (Tanaka 9-2), 4:05 p.m.				
Tampa Bay (Snell 12-5) at Toronto (Estrada 5-8), 4:07 p.m.				
Minnesota (Santana 0-0) at Detroit (Zimmermann 4-4), 4:10 p.m.				
Cleveland (Bieber 6-2) at Chicago White Sox				

Sox (Rodon 3-3), 5:10 p.m.				
Seattle (Leake 8-7) at Houston (Cole 10-4), 5:10 p.m.				
St. Louis (Gomber 1-0) at Kansas City (Smith 1-3), 5:15 p.m.				
Oakland (Anderson 2-3) at L.A. Angels (Pena 1-3), 7:07 p.m.				
Saturday's Games				
Boston at Baltimore, 10:05 a.m., 1st game				
Texas at N.Y. Yankees, 10:05 a.m.				
Tampa Bay at Toronto, 1:07 p.m.				
Minnesota at Detroit, 3:10 p.m.				
Boston at Baltimore, 4:05 p.m., 2nd game				
Cleveland at Chicago White Sox, 4:10 p.m.				
Seattle at Houston, 4:10 p.m.				
St. Louis at Kansas City, 4:15 p.m.				
Oakland at L.A. Angels, 5:07 p.m.				
National League				
East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	64	50	.561	—
Atlanta	62	50	.554	1
Washington	59	56	.513	5½
New York	47	65	.420	16
Miami	47	69	.405	18
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	66	48	.579	—
Milwaukee	66	52	.559	2
St. Louis	60	55	.522	6½
Pittsburgh	60	56	.517	7
Cincinnati	50	65	.435	16
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	64	52	.552	—
Los Angeles	64	52	.552	—
Colorado	60	55	.522	3½
San Francisco	57	59	.491	7
San Diego	46	71	.393	18½

Thursday's Games				
Washington 6, Atlanta 3				
San Diego 8, Milwaukee 4				
L.A. Dodgers 8, Colorado 5				
Pittsburgh 10, San Francisco 5				
Friday's Games				
Washington (Hellickson 5-2) at Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 8-9), 11:20 a.m.				
Arizona (Buehholz 5-1) at Cincinnati (DeSclafani 5-3), 4:10 p.m.				
N.Y. Mets (Wheeler 6-6) at Miami (Urena 3-11), 4:10 p.m.				
Milwaukee (Peralta 5-2) at Atlanta (Gausman 5-9), 4:35 p.m.				
St. Louis (Gomber 1-0) at Kansas City (Smith 1-3), 5:15 p.m.				
L.A. Dodgers (Maeda 7-7) at Colorado (Gray 9-7), 5:40 p.m.				
Philadelphia (Eflin 8-3) at San Diego (Nix 0-0), 7:10 p.m.				
Pittsburgh (Holmes 1-1) at San Francisco (Holland 5-8), 7:15 p.m.				
Saturday's Games				
Washington at Chicago Cubs, 1:05 p.m.				
Arizona at Cincinnati, 3:40 p.m.				
Milwaukee at Atlanta, 4:10 p.m.				
N.Y. Mets at Miami, 4:10 p.m.				
St. Louis at Kansas City, 4:15 p.m.				
L.A. Dodgers at Colorado, 5:10 p.m.				
Philadelphia at San Diego, 5:40 p.m.				
Pittsburgh at San Francisco, 6:05 p.m.				
Football				
National Football League Preseason				
AMERICAN CONFERENCE				
East	W	L	T Pct	PF PA
New England	1	0	01.000	26 17
Miami	0	1	0.000	24 26
Buffalo	0	1	0.000	23 28
N.Y. Jets	0	0	0.000	0 0
South	W	L	T Pct	PF PA
Houston	1	0	01.000	17 10
Indianapolis	1	0	01.000	19 17
Jacksonville	0	1	0.000	20 24
Tennessee	0	1	0.000	17 31
North	W	L	T Pct	PF PA
Pittsburgh	1	0	01.000	31 14
Baltimore	2	0	01.000	50 23
Cleveland	1	0	01.000	20 10
Cincinnati	1	0	01.000	30 27
West	W	L	T Pct	PF PA
Kansas City	0	1	0.000	10 17
Denver	0	0	0.000	0 0
L.A. Chargers	0	0	0.000	0 0
Oakland	0	0	0.000	0 0
NATIONAL CONFERENCE				
East	W	L	T Pct	PF PA
Dallas	0	1	0.000	21 24
N.Y. Giants	0	1	0.000	10 20
Washington	0	1	0.000	17 26
Philadelphia	0	1	0.000	14 31
South	W	L	T Pct	PF PA
Carolina	1	0	01.000	28 23
New Orleans	1	0	01.000	24 20
Tampa Bay	1	0	01.000	26 24
Atlanta	0	0	0.000	0 0
North	W	L	T Pct	PF PA
Green Bay	1	0	01.000	31 17
Chicago	0	2	0.000	43 47
Detroit	0	0	0.000	0 0
Minnesota	0	0	0.000	0 0
West	W	L	T Pct	PF PA
San Francisco	1	0	01.000	24 21
Seattle	0	1	0.000	17 19
L.A. Rams	0	1	0.000	7 33

Arizona	0	0	0.000	0 0
Thursday's Games				
New Orleans 24, Jacksonville 20				
Pittsburgh 31, Philadelphia 14				
Carolina 28, Buffalo 23				
Cleveland 20, N.Y. Giants 10				
Tampa Bay 26, Miami 24				
Cincinnati 30, Chicago 27				
New England 26, Washington 17				
Baltimore 33, L.A. Rams 7				
Green Bay 31, Tennessee 17				
Houston 17, Kansas City 10				
Indianapolis 19, Seattle 17				
San Francisco 24, Dallas 21				
Friday's Games				
Atlanta at N.Y. Jets, 4:30 p.m.				
Detroit at Oakland, 7:30 p.m.				
Saturday's Games				
Minnesota at Denver, 6 p.m.				
L.A. Chargers at Arizona, 7 p.m.				

Stewart Cink	35-32—67
Ollie Schniederjans	34-33—67
Dustin Johnson	33-34—67
Kevin Kisner	33-34—67
Justin Rose	33-34—67
Thomas Pieters	34-33—67
Ryan Fox	33-35—68
Billy Horschel	33-35—68
Hideki Matsuyama	34-34—68
Yuta Ikeda	34-34—68
Webb Simpson	35-34—68
Branden Grace	35-33—68
Ross Fisher	34-34—68
Mikko Korhonen	33-35—68
Kyle Stanley	35-33—68
Marc Leishman	33-35—68
Francesco Molinari	37-31—68
Patrick Cantlay	34-34—68
Jon Rahm	35-33—68
Jason Kokrak	35-33—68
Joachim Niemann	33-35—68
Chris Kirk	34-34—68
Andrew Putnam	33-35—68
Jim Furyk	35-34—69
Shane Lowry	34-35—69
Jimmy Walker	36-33—69
Keegan Bradley	35-34—69
Shubhankar Sharma	35-34—69
Ryan Armour	35-34—69
Justin Thomas	37-32—69
Ryan Moore	33-36—69
J.J. Spaun	34-35—69
Julian Surr	36-33—69
Kevin Chappell	35-34—69
Emiliano Grillo	35-34—69
Tommy Fleetwood	36-33—69
Brooks Koepka	37-32—69
Chris Stroud	34-35—69

Golf

PGA Championship	
Thursday	
At Bellview Country Club, St. Louis	
Purse: TBA (\$10.5 million in 2017)	
Yardage: 7,316; Par: 70 (35-35)	
First Round	
Gary Woodland	34-30—64
Rickie Fowler	31-34—65
Brandon Stone	33-33—66
Zach Johnson	33-33—66
Austin Cook	34-33—67
Ian Poulter	34-33—67
Pat Perez	34-33—67
Jason Day	33-34—67
Brian Gav	35-32—67