

SCOREBOARD

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Raptors sneak past Pacers

The Associated Press

TORONTO

Mike James made a go-ahead jumper with 8.2 seconds left, and the Toronto Raptors ended a three-game losing streak with a 93-89 victory against the Indiana Pacers on Sunday night.

Morris Peterson scored 25 points, Chris Bosh had 24 and James added 21 for the Raptors, who had lost nine of their previous 10.

After Bosh stole the ball from Peja Stojakovic with 32 seconds left, James made a high-arching 21-foot jumper over center Jeff Foster just before the shot clock expired.

Rookie Charlie Villanueva followed with a block on Anthony Johnson before James made two free throws to seal the victory.

Stephen Jackson had 26 points and Foster tied a career high with 19, all in the first half. Foster, a career backup, dominated in the first half, going 8 for 8 from the field and grabbing 12 of his 16 rebounds.

He went 0 for 2 from the field in the second half.

Toronto trailed by as many as 13 in the third quarter, but Bosh faked a jumper and blew by Foster before throwing down a dunk late in the third, cutting Indiana's lead to two.

Rookie Joey Graham, who had eight points and six rebounds in 26 productive minutes, tied it just before the end of the third with an offensive rebound and layup.

Bosh gave Toronto its first lead since the first quarter with a dunk and a conversion of a three-point play with 6:40 left.

Toronto outscored Indiana 20-14 in the fourth quarter.

Peterson's 3-pointer late in the first quarter set an NBA record for most consecutive games with at least one 3-point field goal. The previous record of 594 was set by the Miami Heat.

In Sunday's other games

Pistons 94 Bobcats 78

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Richard Hamilton scored 24 points, and Tayshaun Price added 23 as Detroit improved to 28-2 at home.

Detroit needed only 62 games to reach 50 wins, breaking the team record set in 1988-89 by four games. Detroit needs to go 14-6 in its final 20 games to break the franchise mark of 63 wins.

The Bobcats had their modest two-game winning streak snapped and dropped to 0-3 against Detroit this season.

Tony Delk added 11 points for the Pistons, while Antonio McDyess had 10 points and 11 rebounds and Ben Wallace had 15 rebounds and eight points.

Raymond Felton led Charlotte with 18 points — only two after the half — and Melvin Ely scored 15 off the bench.

Celtics 106 Nuggets 101

BOSTON — Paul Pierce scored 36 points, Wally Szczerbiak added 18, and Boston snapped Denver's four-game winning streak.

Pierce, who has scored at least 30 points in 14 of 16 games, shot 15 of 23 to lead five Celtics in double figures. He also had four assists and three steals to help the Celtics win for the third time in four games and end a three-game losing streak against the Nuggets.

Carmelo Anthony scored 36 points, but was held to 10 in the second half. The Nuggets went the final 4:35 without a field goal.

U.S. gets narrow win against Japan

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif.

Alex Rodriguez came through with the winning hit for the United States after Japan appeared to get the short end of a controversial call.

Rodriguez hit a bases-loaded, two-out single in the ninth Sunday to give Team USA a 4-3 victory in the opener of Round 2 in the inaugural World Baseball Classic.

Vernon Wells opened the ninth with his third hit, and Randy Winn sacrificed, but reached first when second baseman Tsuyoshi Nishioka drew an error for coming off the base while catching third baseman Akinori Iwamura's throw.

Losers Kyuji Fukujawa threw out Wells at third on Michael Young's attempted sacrifice, and Derek Jeter was hit by a pitch to load the bases.

Ken Griffey struck out before Rodriguez appeared to be jammed on a 1-1 pitch, but his grounder got past Fukujawa and Nishioka's sliding attempt behind second was unsuccessful.

The run was unearned because of Nishioka's error. Rodriguez went 2-for-5, making him 7-of-14 in the Classic.

An announced crowd of 32,896 attended the opener of Round 2. Mexico and South Korea were scheduled to meet later Sunday at Angel Stadium, where single games will be played today through Thursday to

complete the second round.

Japan appeared to take a 4-3 lead off Joe Nathan in the eighth when Iwamura flied to left with one out and the bases loaded. Nishioka beat Winn's throw home, and second base umpire Brian Knight ruled safe when Team USA appealed the play. But plate umpire Bob Davidson overruled the call following a brief discussion with the other umpires.

It didn't seem Nishioka left early on the television replay, and Japan manager Sadaharu Oh argued to no avail.

Japan loaded the bases in the ninth on three walks before winner Brad Lidge, Team USA's sixth pitcher, struck out Hiroyoshi Tamura to end the inning.

Table with columns: Division, Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes Northwest, Pacific, and Saturday's scores.

Table with columns: Division, Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes GOLF, Sunday's results, and Champions Tour.

Table with columns: Division, Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes NASCAR, Sunday's results, and Las Vegas.

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Table with columns: Division, Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes NHL, Saturday's scores, and Buffalo 6, Philadelphia 5.

Table with columns: Division, Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes Transactions, National Football League, and Arizona Cardinals.

Table with columns: Division, Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes Transactions, National Football League, and Carolina Panthers.

Boys basketball: Saturday's results IHSAA tournament, Franklin College, Preseason baseball.

MAIN EVENTS: TV TODAY, Baseball, Tennis, SPECTATOR SPORTS.

Franklin College: Sunday's results Baseball, Saturday's results Softball.

Call us with results: Results can be called in to the Daily Journal sports department from 6 to 10 weeknights and Sunday evenings at 736-2715.

Preseason baseball: Spring training, Saturday's scores, Sunday's scores.

Saturday's scores: American East Conference, Atlantic 10 Conference, Big Ten Conference.

Women's college basketball: Sunday's scores, American East Conference.

Men's college basketball: Sunday's scores, American East Conference, Southeastern Conference.

Johnson: (CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1) to block Johnson's move to the outside, Kenseth said, "I was running in the groove where my car was the fastest. If I had to redo it right now, I don't think there was anything I could have done different."

And he's doing it without crew chief Chad Knaus, banned by NASCAR for the first four races of the season after making unapproved modifications to Johnson's car in Daytona qualifying.

strong for the restart, but he was able to hold off Johnson for a lap and a half after the green flag waved for the final time on Lap 269. "Sorry, you guys won a race and I lost it," Kenseth said to his crew. "Can't do no more, I don't know."

ished third, followed by Casey Kahne, Jeff Gordon and Mark Martin. Two-time and reigning Cup champion Stewart had his second straight disappointing finish after running fifth in Daytona.

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