



Abbie Parr | Associated Press

Toronto Blue Jays pitcher Max Scherzer throws against the Seattle Mariners during the first inning in Game 4 of baseball’s American League Championship Series on Thursday in Seattle.

Scherzer turns back the clock; Jays even ALCS with 8-2 win

BY ANDREW DESTIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE — Max Scherzer turned back the clock with a vintage pitching performance and Andrés Giménez homered and drove in four runs as the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Seattle Mariners 8-2 on Thursday to even the American League Championship Series at two games apiece.

Vladimir Guerrero Jr. hit his fifth homer this postseason and the 41-year-old Scherzer allowed two runs in 5 2/3 innings for the Blue Jays, who have outscored the Mariners 21-6 in Seattle after losing the first two games at home.

Game 5 in the best-of-seven series is Friday, with Kevin Gausman scheduled to start for Toronto against Game 1 winner Bryce Miller.

Scherzer, making his 500th major league start, regular season and postseason combined, became the oldest pitcher to start a postseason game since Jamie Moyer was 45 for the Philadelphia Phillies in the 2008 World Series.

The veteran right-hander yielded three hits, one of which was a solo home run by Josh Naylor in the second inning. Scherzer settled in



Abbie Parr | Associated Press

Toronto Blue Jays’ Vladimir Guerrero Jr. celebrates after hitting a solo home run against the Seattle Mariners during the seventh inning in Game 4 of baseball’s American League Championship Series on Thursday in Seattle.

from there, and was not removed until manager John Schneider’s second mound visit.

With two outs in the fifth, Schneider and Scherzer briefly exchanged words on the mound for the first time, and the three-time Cy Young Award appeared to tell Schneider he wasn’t coming out of the game at that point.

Schneider left Scherzer in and he promptly struck out Randy Arozarena swinging with a curveball, one of a career high-tying six whiffs Scherzer induced with his curve, before pounding his glove in celebration.

The Blue Jays’ offense, meanwhile, picked up

where it left off after scoring 13 runs in Game 3. Giménez hit a two-run homer in the third inning for the second consecutive day, this one off starter Luis Castillo to give Toronto a lead it didn’t relinquish. The Blue Jays tacked on another run in the inning chasing Castillo when reliever Gabe Speier walked in a run.

Toronto added to its advantage in the fourth on an RBI double from George Springer, who came around to score on a wild pitch by Matt Brash. Guerrero, who singled earlier in the game, smacked an opposite-field homer to right the seventh off Eduard Bazardo.

Dodgers near repeat World Series trip

LA beats Brewers 3-1 behind Glasnow, Edman

BY BETH HARRIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles Dodgers are poised to become the first defending champion to reach the World Series in 16 years.

Tommy Edman hit a tiebreaking single off hard-throwing rookie Jacob Misorowski in a two-run sixth inning, and the Dodgers beat the Milwaukee Brewers 3-1 on Thursday to take a 3-0 lead in their best-of-seven NL Championship Series.

A team that needed to win a Wild Card Series at the start of the playoffs is 8-1 in the postseason behind outstanding starting pitching, an improved bullpen and just enough offense.

“We’re just excited,” said Edman, the 2024 NLCS MVP. “We didn’t play great during the regular season and we’re getting hot at the right time.”

No defending champion has reached the World Series since the 2009 Philadelphia Phillies. No team has won consecutive titles since the 1998-2000 New York Yankees took three in a row.

“You got to treat it like it’s a do-or-die game,” Dodgers third baseman Max Muncy said. “You can’t look ahead, and I think that’s something a lot of teams struggle with.”

Game 4 is Friday. The only one of the 41 teams that overcame a 3-0 postseason deficit was the 2004 Boston Red Sox against the Yankees, sparked by current Dodgers manager Dave Roberts.

“We’re up, but like Kobe (Bryant) said, ‘The



Ashley Landis | Associated Press

Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Roki Sasaki and first baseman Freddie Freeman celebrate their win against the Milwaukee Brewers in Game 3 of baseball’s National League Championship Series on Thursday in Los Angeles.

job’s not done,’ ” Dodgers shortstop Mookie Betts said. “We got to keep going and just keep applying pressure. We got to keep in mind we’re five wins away from what we really want.”

Shohei Ohtani tripled off Andy Ashby to start the bottom of the first and scored on Betts’ double to put the Dodgers ahead, but Jake Bauers tied the score with an RBI single in the second.

That was the only run allowed by Tyler Glasnow, who has combined with Ohtani, Blake Snell and Yoshinobu Yamamoto to give Dodgers starters a 1.54 postseason ERA.

Misorowski replaced Ashby with two on and one out in the first, and struck out Edman and Teoscar Hernández. The 23-year-old right-hander topped 100 mph with 17 pitches and struck out a Brewers postseason rookie record nine, but his fastball velocity dropped to 98-99 mph slightly in the sixth.

Will Smith singled with one out on a slider in the middle of the strike zone and Freddie Freeman walked after falling behind 1-2 in the count. Edman, who had struck out twice against Misorowski, lined a low slider into center on Misorowski’s 73rd and final pitch. Smith scored for a 2-1 lead as Sal Frelick made a weak throw.

“Misorowski was nasty

today. He’s got unbelievable stuff,” Edman said. “Will did a good job of capitalizing on a mistake and hitting one in the gap. He gave me one I could hit and fortunately, we were able to scrape one across and let our pitching do the rest.”

Abner Uribe relieved and struck out Hernández, then made a wild pickoff throw past first as Freeman scored, the second straight game with an error by the Brewers closer.

“I was really surprised,” Edman said. “I’m glad it happened. It gave us that insurance run.”

Glasnow allowed three hits and three walks in 5 2/3 innings while striking out eight, leaving to a standing ovation from the crowd of 51,251.

Alex Vesia followed Glasnow and got two outs for his second win of the playoffs.

Rookie Roki Sasaki pitched a perfect ninth, finishing a four-hitter. Dodgers relievers allowed one hit in 3 1/3 innings. A rookie moved to the bullpen when he returned from a four-month injury layoff in the season’s final week, Sasaki became the first pitcher since saves became an official statistic in 1969 to earn each of his first three career saves in the postseason.

Eleven of 19 batters struck out in the middle innings as shadows crept across home plate and made it difficult for hitters.

Yankees’ Judge doesn’t need surgery on elbow

Volpe and Rodón had operations and could be out until May

BY RONALD BLUM
AP BASEBALL WRITER

NEW YORK — Yankees star Aaron Judge won’t need surgery on his elbow but shortstop Anthony Volpe and left-hander Carlos Rodón had operations this week and could be sidelined until May.

Judge’s throwing was limited after the two-time AL MVP hurt the flexor tendon in his right elbow in July. Manager Aaron Boone said Thursday an MRI after the team was eliminated last week showed “no surgery is going to be needed.”

“He’ll take some time off and continue to do strengthening things and rehab and stuff, but felt like he finished the season in a pretty good place as we saw continued improvements,” Boone said.

Volpe and Rodón are projected to start the season on the injured list and could be sidelined until May, Boone and general manager Brian Cashman said at their end-of-season news conferences.

Volpe, the Yankees shortstop since 2023, had arthroscopic surgery Tuesday with head team

physician Dr. Christopher Ahmad to repair the labrum in his left shoulder. Boone said Volpe can start hitting in four months but can’t dive on the shoulder for six months.

“The cleanup was more severe than the MRI result,” Cashman said.

Rodón was operated on Wednesday by Los Angeles Dodgers head team physician Dr. Neal ElAttrache to remove loose bodies in his left elbow and shave a bone spur. He has eight weeks of no throwing.

Giancarlo Stanton, who didn’t make his season debut until June 16 because of right and left elbow epicondylitis, does not need surgery.

“He’s in a pretty good place,” Boone said. “He’ll treat it and everything but nothing expected for Big G.”

Gerrit Cole, returning from Tommy John surgery in March, will throw lightly off a mound next week and could be available not far after opening day.

New York has a record 27 World Series titles but none since 2009. After beating Boston in the Wild Card Series, the Yankees lost a four-game Division Series to Toronto.

“It’s just playing at the highest level at the most important time and you’ve got to maintain that and do that for the entire month of October,” said Boone, the manager since the 2018 season.



Frank Franklin II | Associated Press

New York Yankees’ Aaron Judge reacts after striking out against the Toronto Blue Jays during the eighth inning of Game 4 of baseball’s American League Division Series on Oct. 8 in New York.

After losing to the Los Angeles Dodgers in the 2024 World Series, New York started the season 35-20, slumped during a 25-34 stretch as its bullpen struggled, then closed 34-14 and lost the AL East to Toronto on a tiebreaker.

“Could I have been more creative in some of the things that I could have done in those games in the middle of the season where we were a little short?” Boone asked out loud.

Boone’s contract runs through 2027.

“He’s one of the better managers,” Cashman said. “Because of our environment, he’s someone that can be second-guessed 10 million times over. And I don’t care who you put in that, that would be the same, whoever else would be there. I trust him. I think he’s a good man. I

think he works his tail off.”

Among potential free agents, Cashman said the Yankees would like to retain Cody Bellinger.

“We’d love to have him with our team moving forward,” he said.

Bullpen coach Mike Harkey and first base/infield coach Travis Chapman won’t return for 2026, assistant hitting coach Pat Roessler won’t be in that role and minor league hitting coordinator Jake Hirst will be taking that job. Cashman said third base coach Luis Rojas was given permission to interview for Baltimore’s manager opening and hitting coach James Rowson was allowed to interview for Minnesota’s manager job.

Judge hurt his elbow making a throw at Toronto on July 22. The 33-year-old came back on Aug. 5 from a 10-day stint on the

injured list caused by the strained flexor tendon in his right elbow and threw gingerly upon his outfield return on Sept. 5. He gradually built up arm strength.

Judge led the major leagues with a .331 average and 1.145 OPS, hitting 53 homers with 114 RBIs and 124 walks. He hit .500 with one homer, seven RBIs and four walks in the postseason.

Volpe hurt the shoulder on May 3 in an unsuccessful attempt for a backhand stab on Christopher Morel’s eighth-inning single, which sparked a two-run rally in Tampa Bay’s 3-2 win. He returned to the lineup two days later but struggled for much of the season.

Volpe, 24, had a cortisone shot during the All-Star break and a second one on Sept. 10, three days after aggravating the shoulder while making a diving stop on Isiah Kiner-Falefa in a 4-3 win over Toronto. Volpe hit .212 with 19 homers and a career-high 72 RBIs and then .192 with one

homer, two RBIs and 16 strikeouts in seven postseason games. He went 1 for 15 with 11 strikeouts in the AL Division Series, making out in his last 13 at-bats.

In the field, Volpe made a career-high 19 errors, tied for third-most among major league shortstops.

“The offense is really in line with what he’s done the first two years. For him to become that frontline shortstop, that’s got to improve. He understands that. We understand that,” Boone said. “He’s 24 years old.”

Rodón, who turns 33 in December, was 18-9 with a 3.09 ERA. Cashman said the team learned recently of the need for surgery.

LEGAL NOTICE

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that Mulzer Crushed Stone has filed an application with the Energy and Environment Cabinet to construct a new scale house, scale, and wheel wash at Mulzer Yard #3. The property is located at 5001 Hwy 2830, from the intersection of KY 144 & KY 2830, travel north on KY 2830 for approx. 0.6 miles. The site is located on the northwest side of the road within the floodplain of the Ohio River. Any comments or objections can be submitted via email to: DOWFloodplain@ky.gov Kentucky Division of Water, Floodplain Management Section, 300 Sower Blvd. Frankfort, KY 40601. Call 502-564-3410 with questions.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of the Death of Dewey Hodson Clark Jr., he died on May 1, 2025. All creditors should contact Sheila G. Clark executrix at 1498 Eubanks Rd., Calhoun, KY 42327 by December 31, 2025 to submit claims against the estate.