

Chamberlain to have right shoulder examined today

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — New York Yankees pitcher Joba Chamberlain will be examined by noted orthopedic surgeon Dr. James Andrews on Wednesday after undergoing an MRI on his ailing right shoulder.

Chamberlain returned to New York for tests on his shoulder Tuesday. The team said before its game against the Texas Rangers that it would not reveal the results of the MRI exam until Chamberlain is seen by Andrews in Birmingham,

Ala.

"He'll take his test results with him," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said. "Until I hear from Dr. Andrews, that's all I've got."

Chamberlain was removed from Monday night's start against the Texas Rangers in the fifth inning with what the club announced was a stiff right shoulder.

On Tuesday, Chamberlain flew back to New York and underwent a series of tests, including an MRI, at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in Manhattan.

The Yankees are already without No. 1 starter Chien-Ming Wang and right-hander Phil Hughes. Subtracting Chamberlain from the rotation

would be a huge blow to the team's postseason chances.

"I think we're all hopeful," Girardi said. "I hope we don't miss him for very long. But you think of a guy of Joba's caliber and you know he's going to miss a start, that doesn't mean the guy who replaces him can't pitch well."

Girardi said the 22-year-old right-hander would probably miss his next turn in the rotation. Anything longer would be a setback for the injury-riddled Yankees pitching staff.

"I envision him not making his next start," Girardi said. "Beyond that, I can't say."

Girardi said his options for replac-

ing Chamberlain include moving right-hander Darrell Rasner back into the rotation or recalling a pitcher from Triple-A Scranton.

Girardi said the Yankees will be cautious with Chamberlain, even in a close playoff race.

"You're always careful with your players," Girardi said. "You don't want to jeopardize their long-term health. And we're talking about a 22-year-old kid here."

Red Sox fan sues Yankees

NEW YORK — A Boston Red Sox fan has sued the New York Yankees and two of its fans, saying he was attacked at Yankee Stadium last summer.

Charles Hillios says he was

harassed by two Yankees fans who objected to him cheering for the Red Sox last Aug. 29.

Hillios is a Massachusetts resident, but it wasn't immediately clear where he was from. Hillios says in the lawsuit, filed in Manhattan federal court, that security warned the Yankees fans to leave him alone. But he says the fans "viciously attacked and physically assaulted" him when he went to a concession stand.

According to the lawsuit, Hillios suffered serious injuries. It seeks unspecified financial penalties.

A call for comment to the New York Yankees on Tuesday was not immediately returned.



The Tampa Bay Rays' Carlos Pena, left, and Evan Longoria celebrate after scoring on a two-run single by Dioner Navarro Tuesday night against the Cleveland Indians. AP photo

9th-inning hit lifts Jays

Mench single sends A's to 8th straight loss

Associated Press

TORONTO — Kevin Mench singled in the winning run with two outs in the ninth inning and the Toronto Blue Jays extended the Athletics' season-long losing streak to eight games, beating Oakland 4-3.

Toronto trailed 3-2 heading into the bottom of the ninth against Oakland closer Huston Street. Alex Rios led off with a single and scored one out later when Rod Barajas doubled over the head of left fielder Ryan Sweeney.

Adam Lind was walked intentionally and Scott Rolen advanced both runners with an infield chopper before Mench lined the first pitch he saw into the left-center field alley, scoring Barajas.

Street (2-5) blew his sixth save of the season.

Jesse Carlson (4-1) got two outs to earn the victory.

Carlos Gonzalez had a career-high four hits for the Athletics, who have lost six straight road games and are a

major league worst 2-15 since the All-Star break.

Oakland rookie reliever Brad Ziegler worked two shutout innings, extending his scoreless innings streak to 34. It's the longest scoreless streak to begin a career in modern major league history (since 1900), and just four innings shy of the Oakland team record of 37 scoreless innings, set by Mike Torres in 1976.

The Athletics took a 1-0 lead in the second when Gonzalez doubled and scored on a single by Mark Ellis, but Toronto tied it in the bottom half when Barajas singled and came around on Lind's triple.

A two-out, two-run triple by Bobby Crosby gave Oakland a 3-1 lead in the fourth, but Toronto got one back in the fifth on Marco Scutaro's RBI single.

Seeking an insurance run, Oakland loaded the bases against reliever Brandon League with nobody out in the eighth, but came up empty when shortstop John McDonald made a diving catch on Ellis' liner, then threw from his knees to double up pinch runner Emil Brown off second base.

Rays 8, Indians 4

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Evan Longoria, Dioner Navarro and Cliff Floyd homered to help the AL East-leading Tampa Bay Rays beat the Cleveland Indians.

Longoria's two-run drive in Tampa Bay's four-run seventh was his 22nd of the season, setting a team record for a rookie. Longoria hit two long drives that landed in foul territory then took a pitch before connecting against Rafael Betancourt.

Red Sox 8, Royals 2

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Jason Bay had four hits and two RBIs and Josh Beckett pitched effectively into the seventh inning to help the Boston Red Sox beat the Kansas City Royals.

Beckett, 0-3 with a 5.31 earned run average while allowing 29 hits in 20 1/3 innings in his previous three starts, held the Royals to four hits and two runs in 6 1/2 innings. He struck out seven and walked two.

Beckett (10-8) gave up an RBI double to Mark Teahen in the first, and after Alex Gordon led off the second with a single, Beckett retired 16 of the next 17 he faced. He improved to 3-0 in five career starts against Kansas City.

15-day stint on DL up next for Wagner

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Billy Wagner was placed on the 15-day disabled list Tuesday with a strained left forearm, leaving the New York Mets without their All-Star closer as they chase a playoff spot.

It's a huge blow to the Mets, even though Wagner has blown seven of 34 save chances. No other New York pitcher has a save this season.

"It's just a bad time to have to go through something like this," Wagner said.

Struggling setup man Aaron Heilman is likely to get the first shot at closing in Wagner's absence, manager Jerry Manuel said.

Mets

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Adrian Gonzalez before Pedro Feliciano worked 1 1/2 perfect innings.

Pelfrey (10-7) won for the eighth time in nine decisions. His seven-game winning streak was snapped Wednesday at Florida, his first loss in 12 starts since May 26 against the Marlins.

The Padres, who pulled off a four-game sweep against the Mets in early June, dropped to 18-36 on the road. They are 0-4 in New York this year after getting swept at Yankee Stadium.

San Diego starter Chris Young was pulled after yielding only one hit in 5 1/2 innings. He walked five, though.

With Young out of the game, the Mets quickly made their move.

After striking out twice against Young, Beltran singled off Mike Adams (1-1) to put runners at first and second with one out in the sixth. Tatis then hooked a 2-2 pitch into the left-field corner for his 101st major league homer

The Mets also recalled right-hander Ruddy Lugo from Triple-A New Orleans. He has been starting games in the minors and will be penciled in as a long man out of the bullpen with New York.

After losing their final four games on a 1-5 road trip, the Mets were set to open a seven-game homestand Tuesday night against San Diego. New York began the day third in the NL East, three games behind in the division and wild-card races.

Wagner had an MRI exam and X-rays on his pitching arm Tuesday. The tests showed no structural damage, but the forearm strain requires rest.

"It's like a pulled hamstring," he said.

The left-hander is 0-1 with a 2.30 ERA and 27 saves in 45 appearances.

and ninth this season, giving New York a 4-2 lead.

With the crowd chanting his name, Tatis came out for a curtain call. He tossed his head back to soak it all in and pointed both fingers toward the sky.

Tatis extended his hitting streak to 11 games with his eighth career multihomer game and first since Sept. 16, 2000, with St. Louis.

Daniel Murphy added a run-scoring double in the seventh off Clay Hensley for his first extra-base hit and RBI in the majors.

NOTES: Pedro Martinez is scheduled to start Wednesday night for the Mets, his second outing since July 12. Martinez is 10-3 with a 3.18 ERA against San Diego. ... Reigning NL Cy Young Award winner Jake Peavy will get five days of rest between starts again. He'll go Friday night in Colorado for the Padres instead of Thursday at New York. ... San Diego had won six straight against the Mets dating to last August.



Houston Astros' Kazuo Matsui watches his single to right field during the seventh inning of Tuesday's game against the Chicago Cubs at Wrigley Field. AP photo

Marlins close in on Phils

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Josh Johnson pitched six scoreless innings, Jeremy Hermida drove in four runs and the Florida Marlins beat the Philadelphia Phillies 8-2 Tuesday night in a matchup of the two top teams in the NL East.

The Marlins, who have by far the smallest payroll in the majors, closed within 1 1/2 games of first-place Philadelphia. The New York Mets are two

games behind. Johnson (2-0) allowed five hits and overcame four walks in his fifth start since returning from reconstructive elbow surgery in August 2007. The Marlins improved to 5-0 in his starts this year.

Jamie Moyer (10-7) fell to 10-1 against the Marlins. The 45-year-old left-hander uncharacteristically struggled with his control. Moyer gave up two runs and six hits in five innings. He walked three and hit two batters.

Shane Victorino hit a two-out, two-run homer off Renyel Pinto to cut the deficit in half in the seventh. The Marlins used three pitchers to get through the seventh, and needed five pitchers to get the last nine outs.

But the Phillies' bullpen couldn't keep it close. Hermida had an RBI single and a two-run single off J.A. Happ in the last two innings. Happ made his first career relief appearance after three starts.

Florida stranded eight runners over the

first three innings, leaving the bases loaded twice.

Dan Uggla doubled to start the second and Moyer hit John Baker with a pitch. After Johnson sacrificed, Hanley Ramirez was intentionally walked to load the bases with two outs.

Moyer fell behind Hermida 3-0, before walking him on a 3-2 pitch to force in Florida's first run.

Brewers 8, Reds 1

CINCINNATI — Prince Fielder hit a two-run homer that helped the Milwaukee Brewers beat the Cincinnati Reds.

Right-hander Dave Bush (6-9) allowed only three hits in seven innings, retiring 17 consecutive batters after Edwin Encarnacion drove in a run with an infield single in the first inning. It was a breakthrough performance for Bush, who was 0-2 with a 14.24 ERA in five previous starts at Great American Ball Park.

Since they were tied with the Cubs for first place in the NL Central on July 26, the Brewers have lost seven of 10.

Cubs 11, Astros 7

CHICAGO — Alfonso Soriano hit a tie-breaking, three-run homer in the seventh inning and the Chicago Cubs rallied after blowing a five-run lead, beating the Houston Astros.

Soriano's 20th homer highlighted a five-run burst and sent the NL Central-leading Cubs to their eighth win in 10 games.

The Cubs also welcomed back Kerry Wood. The All-Star closer pitched a scoreless eighth after missing three weeks with a blister on his right index finger.

Fielder apologizes for blow-up

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Milwaukee first baseman Prince Fielder apologized Tuesday for pushing a teammate in the dugout during a loss, saying he should have done a better job of handling frustration due in part to the Brewers' losing streak.

BASEBALL NOTES

Fielder exchanged words and twice shoved Manny Parra after the pitcher was removed for a pinch-hitter in the seventh inning of a 6-3 loss to the Cincinnati Reds on Monday night. The Brewers' seventh loss in nine games left them with only a half-game lead in the NL wild-card standings.

The 24-year-old Fielder was pulled away from Parra by several teammates, preventing the situation from escalating. He declined to talk about it after the game.

On Tuesday, he said there is no animosity toward Parra.

"It's not like we hate each other," Fielder said. "I don't. It's just a little disagreement. I apologize for the way it went down, but I don't apologize for the passion and intensity. I definitely could have handled it a little better, but just at that moment, that's how it went down. I can't take it back. The way I handled it probably could have been dealt with better."

Haren signs new deal

PHOENIX — Arizona Diamondbacks All-Star right-hander Dan Haren has agreed to terms on a four-year, \$44.75 million contract that runs through the 2012 season with a club option for 2013.

Four players suspended

NEW YORK — Kansas City catcher Miguel Olivo and pitcher Zack Greinke have been suspended five games each for causing trouble in a weekend game with the Chicago White Sox.