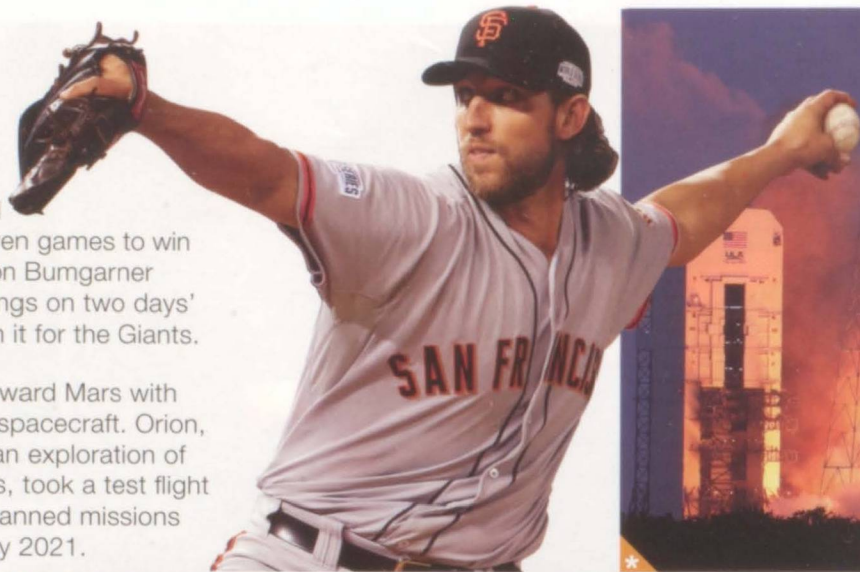


★ In an unexpected matchup of two wild card teams, the San Francisco Giants defeated the Kansas City Royals in seven games to win the 2014 World Series. Madison Bumgarner pitched five shutout relief innings on two days' rest in the final game to clinch it for the Giants.

★ NASA took its first steps toward Mars with the initial launch of the Orion spacecraft. Orion, which was designed for human exploration of the moon, asteroids and Mars, took a test flight in December. It was hoped manned missions with Orion could take place by 2021.



★ The latest hit movie from the Marvel universe, "Guardians of the Galaxy," earned more than \$330 million at the box office and introduced a new group of misfit superhero space characters out to save the world.

★ Malala Yousafzai, 17, of Pakistan, received the Nobel Peace Prize for her work supporting the education of women in her country. Kailash Satyarthi of India also received the Peace Prize for his work in freeing children from forced labor. Both went about their work at great risk to their lives.



★ Teen girls were wearing dresses inches above the knee, jeans, leggings and jeggings with baby doll tops and even laced combat boots. Scarves and fringe were among the accents. Layered looks remained in style for both guys and girls. Guys were sporting jogger pants with elastic cuffs and jeans with or without rolled cuffs.

★ The Ohio State Buckeyes won the first ever College Football Playoff, defeating the Oregon Ducks, 42-20, in the national championship game. Third-string quarterback Cardale Jones led the way for the Buckeyes in the final three games, after Ohio State's top two quarterbacks went out with injuries.

