

# Royals batters beat up White Sox pitching

CHICAGO (AP)—Kip Wells keeps getting hit — by the baseball and by opposing teams.

Wells was smacked by a first-inning batted ball Thursday night for the second straight start, and then was buried again by a big inning as the Kansas City Royals beat the Chicago White Sox 6-3.

"He's been hit a lot in his career. Mo Vaughn hit him once in spring training. He's probably going to have to start getting himself in a better position," White Sox manager Jerry Manuel said.

Wells (6-7) got hit in the forearm by Mike Sweeney's first-inning liner, though he picked up the ball and threw him out.

Two innings later, the Royals scored six runs, highlighted by Raul Ibanez's three-run double.

"I got into a big inning and couldn't get out of it," Wells said. "And that hurts."

The two-plus innings marked Wells' shortest outing of the season. It came one start after he gave up seven runs and eight hits in the first inning against Boston, where he was hit in the thigh by a ball off the bat of Jose Offerman.

Wells' spot in the rotation is in jeopardy after allowing 17 earned runs in 10 innings over his last three starts. But he said taking the liner off his arm wasn't the reason he pitched so poorly.

"I can't say that was my demise, that I got hit," Wells said. "You have to be able to pitch through some things,

whatever it is — an error on myself, Texas Leaguer — and I couldn't do it."

K.C.'s big inning helped Jeff Suppan (5-9) get his first win since June 29. The Royals averaged just 2.9 runs in his previous nine starts.

"It means a lot to put up a six spot in one inning. It's just nice to get a big lead," Suppan said.

He pitched three-hit, shutout ball for six innings before Jeff Liefer and Jose Valentin homered in the seventh to make it 6-3. Jason Grimsley relieved and struck out Magglio Ordonez to end the inning.

The Royals overcame an umpire's overrule to score six runs in the third.

Carlos Febles bunted for an apparent base hit as Wells fell down trying to field it. But after Manuel protested, the umpires conferred and ruled the ball hit Febles twice in the batter's box and was foul.

Febles returned to the plate and drew a walk, went to second on Wells' wild pickoff and to third on a bunt single by Neifi Perez as Wells couldn't pick up the ball.

Carlos Beltran followed with an RBI single to give the Royals a 1-0 lead. Sweeney walked to load the bases, and Ibanez hit a three-run double into the right field corner. Dee Brown's RBI double and Brent Mayne's blooper single off Matt Ginter made it 6-0.

"We haven't really had a lot of innings like that this year," Royals manager Tony Muser said. "It can carry you a ways."



## Blood, steam and gears



JAY KELLEY/Colby Free Press

Shawn Fromholtz' car looks like it's breathing its last, but Fromholtz brought it back to life and ended up winning the feature at the Colby Lions Club Demolition Derby at the Thomas County Fair Thursday night. Derby fans were treated to 27 cars and almost three hours of hard-hitting action.

# Football gearing up

By JAY KELLEY

Colby Free Press

Football season is fast approaching for Colby High School Eagles, according to head coach Mike Gottsch.

Equipment checkout will be Thursday and Friday, Aug. 9-10 at the high school. Seniors and juniors will be able to get their gear from 7-9 p.m. Thursday and sophomores and freshman will check out from 7-9 p.m. Friday.

"It's important that we keep with the schedule," said Gottsch, "in order to get the gear to the right people."

Fall practice will start at 7 a.m., Monday, Aug. 13 at the practice field behind the high school.

Gottsch said each player needed to have a physical or they would not be able to practice.

"We're looking forward to the new season," said Gottsch. The team hopes to build on some good things that happened toward the end of last season, including a win over rival Goodland for the first time in 12 years.

"Most of our line is back and more experienced," said Gottsch.

The first game of the new season is Friday, Aug. 31 when the Atwood Buffaloes come to Dennen Field.



# Philadelphia downs Rockies 4-2

DENVER (AP) — Pat Burrell homered in his third straight game, leading David Coggin and the Philadelphia Phillies over the Colorado Rockies 4-2 Thursday.

Burrell, who had struggled since the All Star break before coming to Coors Field, went 2-for-2 with a double and his 14th home run of the year.

Scott Rolen doubled and scored twice for the Phillies. Burrell drove in two runs.

Juan Uribe hit his first major league home run for the Rockies.

Coggin (2-1) allowed two runs and nine hits in seven innings, and won for the first time since July 4. He had given up seven earned runs in 16 2-3 innings in his previous three starts.

Jose Mesa pitched a scoreless ninth to pick up his 28th save in 30 chances. He has been successful in 14 straight opportunities.

John Thomson (0-4) lost in his first start since May 24. He was activated from the disabled list before the game after being out with an injured right shoulder.

Thomson retired the first five batters before Burrell hit a 3-2 fastball into the left-field seats with two outs in the second inning.

Rolen led off the fourth with a double and scored on Burrell's two-out double for a 2-0 lead.

The Phillies built their lead to 4-0 in the sixth after Rolen was hit by a pitch and Bobby Abreu doubled.

After an intentional walk to Burrell,



Travis Lee had an RBI grounder and Tomas Perez blooped a run-scoring single.

Uribe's solo home run with two outs in the seventh spoiled Coggin's shut-out bid. The Rockies added a run later in the inning on Sal Fasano's double and pinch-hitter Greg Norton's single.

## Area Briefs

### 7/8th grade football meeting set

There will be a meeting for any boys interested in playing 7/8th grade football on Tuesday at the Colby Middle School at 7:30 p.m. Seventh grade will meet in the cafeteria and eighth grade in the auditorium. For more information call John Miles at 462-3055.

### Volleyball camp

Colby High School volleyball coach Leslie Wagoner will be hosting a volleyball camp at the middle school gym on Monday. Times will be: 3/4th grade, 1-2:30 p.m.; 5/6th grade 2:45-4:15 p.m. For questions or registration, contact Wagoner at 462-7959.

## Baseball At-A-Glance

American League					East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
New York	65	43	.602	—	Atlanta	61	47	.565	—
Boston	60	47	.561	4 1/2	Philadelphia	59	49	.546	2
Toronto	50	59	.459	15 1/2	Florida	54	53	.505	6 1/2
Baltimore	45	64	.413	20 1/2	New York	50	59	.459	11 1/2
Tampa Bay	36	72	.333	29	Montreal	47	62	.431	14 1/2
Central Division					West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	61	46	.570	—	Chicago	62	45	.579	—
Minnesota	61	47	.565	1/2	Houston	59	49	.546	3 1/2
Chicago	52	54	.491	8 1/2	St. Louis	54	52	.509	7 1/2
Detroit	46	60	.434	14 1/2	Milwaukee	46	60	.434	15 1/2
Kansas City	43	65	.398	18 1/2	Cincinnati	44	63	.411	18
West Division					Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	78	30	.722	—	Pittsburgh	41	66	.383	21
Oakland	58	50	.537	20					
Anaheim	56	52	.518	22					
Texas	49	59	.454	29					
National League					West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
					Los Angeles	61	48	.560	—
					Arizona	60	48	.556	1/2
					San Francisco	60	49	.550	1
					San Diego	53	55	.491	7 1/2
					Colorado	45	63	.417	15 1/2

## Bufs won't forget, says coach

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — Colorado head coach Gary Barnett thinks the team's bad finish last season has generated a hunger to win and a newfound camaraderie.

Until the Buffaloes' season-ending 34-32 loss at Nebraska, the 3-8 team didn't understand the price of winning, Barnett said.

"We cannot and will not forget last year. If we do, the whole year was a waste," the third-year coach said.

Barnett visited Texas Stadium, site of the Big 12 Conference championship game, while attending a Big 12 meeting last week. He said the team needs to respect every opponent if it hopes to make a trip to Dallas.



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  - 1995 Lumina Van OLD
  - 1994 Ford Ranger Splash
  - 1993 GMC Conversion Van
  - 1993 Pontiac Transport Van
  - 1992 Ford F-150 Flareside
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