

# Rockies snap five-game losing streak at home

By JOHN MOSSMAN

AP Sports Writer

DENVER (AP) — Jason Jennings' elbow still bore an ugly bruise, but he was feeling no pain.

Pitching five days after taking a liner off his elbow, Jennings threw six innings and had an RBI double as the Colorado Rockies snapped a five-game losing streak with a 6-4 win over Los Angeles on Tuesday night.

The Rockies ended their skid despite being short-handed. Two of their best hitters left the game prematurely.

Third baseman Todd Zeile left the game after three innings when his wife, former gymnast Julianne McNamara, tripped at Coors Field and broke her ankle. Doctors were considering surgery for Zeile's wife, who is pregnant.

After four innings, right fielder Larry Walker left because of a sore right elbow. Walker had elbow surgery after the 1997 season and again in 2000. Manager Buddy Bell said X-rays were taken, but results weren't immediately available.

"We knew they were gone," center fielder Juan Pierre said. "I think guys stepped it up a little. We knew we didn't have Walker and Zeile coming up, so guys took it upon themselves to get the hits."

"This game is hard to explain sometimes," Bell said. "A lot of times as a player you just go into the game and try to do the best you can regardless of who is in the lineup with you. I don't know if that is any kind of psychological edge."

The Rockies erased a 4-2 deficit with four runs in the sixth. Colorado had five straight hits off Andy Ashby (1-1) to open the inning.

Todd Helton singled and scored on

a double by Greg Norton, who had replaced Zeile in the lineup. Todd Hollandsworth followed with an RBI single up the middle. Jose Ortiz singled and Gary Bennett lined a run-scoring single that handcuffed Eric Karros at first. Ortiz scored on pinch-hitter Terry Shumpert's double-play grounder.

"It's nice to come in here and see some smiles," said Bennett, who had two hits. "Big hits at key times have been eluding us here early on. Maybe this will get us going."

Jennings (1-1) went six innings, allowing nine hits and four runs — all on homers in the fourth. Jennings departed in the third inning of his last start with a bruised pitching elbow, the result of a drive off the bat of Arizona's Steve Finley.

"Having to come out of my last game was a pretty bad experience," Jennings said. "I was fortunate to recover quick enough to get the start. My elbow was fine. It just felt a little stiff toward the last inning or so."

"I had a problem with the big inning last year and I never seemed to recover from it. Tonight, I knew I had to keep us in the game."

Jose Jimenez pitched a perfect ninth for his third save.

Ashby said he "couldn't make a pitch in the sixth inning. I couldn't get an out. My control was a big problem."

The Dodgers, who managed only an infield single off Jennings in the first three innings, cracked three homers in the fourth to take a 4-2 lead.

Hiram Bocachica led off with a homer, his second. With one out, Paul Lo Duca hit a solo homer, his first. Karros singled and Marquis Grissom hit his first homer, a 412-foot shot to right-center.

## Serving up tennis



Colby Free Press

Colby High School senior Chris Barnum serves during a match at Colby Community College. The Eagle junior varsity tennis team hosted its Invitational tournament Tuesday, with teams from Scott City, Hays, Garden City, Ulysses, and Liberal playing. The Eagles placed fifth in the tournament, which Ulysses eventually won.

# Forsberg cleared to play for Avalanche in play-offs

DENVER (AP) — Colorado Avalanche center Peter Forsberg has been cleared to play for the playoffs.

Forsberg, a six-time All-Star, was expected to miss four months after having foot surgery on Jan. 10. But he has been skating with the team for more than two weeks and was cleared to play on Tuesday.

"The leg has felt great and there was a lot of progress made last week," said Forsberg, who is expected to be in the lineup against Los Angeles on Thursday. "I am really healthy now and I feel great. It will be great to get back."

Forsberg has had four foot surgeries and his spleen removed in the past 11 months.

"There were lots of smiling faces. That is for sure," Colorado coach Bob

Hartley said of the team learning the news. "It is great news at this time of the year to be adding a world class player to your roster."

Forsberg said last week that he wasn't sure if he would be ready for the playoffs after experiencing pain in his foot. He said he began feeling better late in the week and possibly could have played Sunday against Dallas in the season finale.

"I probably could have played, but it was totally unnecessary," Forsberg said. "It was not that an important of a game and we thought a couple of more days rest would be better."

Hartley said Forsberg will move to left wing and skate on the second line with Chris Drury and Steven Reinprecht.

# Chiefs reach agreement with Chicago Bears linebacker

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Kansas City Chiefs reached agreement Monday on an offer sheet for Warrick Holdman, a starting linebacker for the Chicago Bear the past two seasons.

Holdman, who played at Texas A&M, is a restricted free agent and the Bears can retain him if they match the Chiefs' four-year offer by Friday.

"I'll be pleased if it works," said coach Dick Vermeil. "But I'll be sur-

prised if they don't match and keep him because he's a very good football player. I'm not optimistic."

Holdman, 6-foot-1 and 246 pounds, has been in the NFL for three seasons.

The Chiefs are looking for a weak-side linebacker to replace Donnie Edwards, who led them in tackles each of the last four seasons. He was released after he and the Chiefs couldn't agree on a new contract.

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## Baseball Standings

### National League

#### East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	9	5	.643	
Florida	7	6	.538	1 1/2
Montreal	7	7	.500	2
Philadelphia	6	8	.429	3
Atlanta	6	9	.400	3 1/2

#### Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Pittsburgh	8	5	.615	
St. Louis	8	6	.571	1/2
Cincinnati	7	6	.538	1
Houston	6	7	.462	2
Chicago	5	8	.385	3
Milwaukee	3	11	.214	5 1/2

#### West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	10	4	.714	
Arizona	10	5	.667	1/2
Los Angeles	7	7	.500	3
San Diego	7	7	.500	3
Colorado	5	10	.333	5 1/2

### American League

#### East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	8	4	.667	
New York	8	7	.533	1 1/2
Toronto	6	7	.462	2 1/2
Tampa Bay	5	7	.417	3
Baltimore	4	9	.308	4 1/2

#### Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	11	2	.846	
Minnesota	9	5	.643	2 1/2
Chicago	8	5	.615	3
Kansas City	4	7	.364	6
Detroit	1	11	.083	9 1/2

#### West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	12	3	.800	
Oakland	8	6	.571	3 1/2
Anaheim	5	8	.385	6
Texas	3	11	.214	8 1/2

# Shockers overpower 'Hawks

WICHITA (AP) — Wichita State got home runs from four players Tuesday as the Shockers defeated Kansas 10-1.

Dustin Hawkins, Tanner Welch, Brandon Green, and Mark Johnson all homered for Wichita State (25-8). The Shockers scored first in the second inning on RBI singles from Ryan Owens and Hawkins, who had three RBIs in the game. The Shockers then got four runs in the bottom of the fourth inning, three of them on back-to-back homers from Hawkins and Green, putting the game out of reach.

Kansas (16-18) scored in the third inning with an RBI single from Casey Spanish. The Jayhawks threatened again in the fourth with runners on first and second and nobody out when Cole Armstrong hit into a triple-play.

Mathew Jakubov (1-1) earned the win for the Shockers, giving up four hits and one run over five innings of work.

The Jayhawks' Tom Gorzelanny (0-6) picked up the loss, giving up five runs and striking out six in 3 1/3 innings.

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