

White Sox fluster Royals

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Mark Buehrle had more trouble getting out of the way of balls hit up the middle than with the Kansas City hitters.

Buehrle pitched eight strong innings and Joe Crede drove in two runs as the Chicago White Sox defeated the Royals 3-1 Sunday to snap a four-game losing streak.

Buehrle was struck in the right triceps by Reggie Sanders' comebacker to end the fourth, and Shane Costa's grounder ricocheted off the pitcher's right leg in the sixth.

"My leg cramped up in the eighth inning," Buehrle said. "It was like getting an elbow to the knee. I wanted to go back out and finish it, but it was best to let the bullpen finish it."

Buehrle (1-0) gave up just six singles, walked one and struck out one. The Royals did not have a runner reach second base until the seventh inning.

"My velocity was back up, which I was happy to see that," Buehrle said. "I was getting ground balls, which was nice to see."

White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen was happy to see a well pitched game after his club had a 6.20 ERA in the first six games.

"He's my ace," Guillen said. "He's been doing that for a long time. When things are going tough, he came up big. I've got a lot of confidence in him. Hopefully, the rest of my starters will follow him. Buehrle stepped up big today."

The White Sox took a 2-0 lead in the second. Jermaine Dye walked with one out and advanced to third on A.J. Pierzynski's single to center. Crede's broken-bat double to left scored both.

Jim Thome homered deep into the left-field seats with two out in the eighth inning off Scott Elarton (0-2). It was the third of the season for Thome, the only White Sox player to homer.

Bobby Jenks gave up a one-out homer to Reggie Sanders in the ninth, but finished up for his first save.

Buehrle did not allow a hit until Mark Teahen's grounder to center field with two outs in the fifth. The only other baserunner the Royals had in the first five innings was Emil Brown reaching first on a fielding error in the second inning.

Ulysses games show what Colby is made of

Colby High's softball team appears to be picking up where they left off a season ago.

The Eagles started their season last week with an impressive doubleheader win at Ulysses. In both games, Colby scored in double digits.

"We just like to put the ball in play," said Colby coach Jack Elliott. "We bunt to advance runners and play small ball, which you do in softball."

But Elliott was just as impressed with Colby's performance on the mound. The Eagles pitching is led by returning players Sarah Redmond and Logan Wark. Elliott said Redmond may be the team's best pitcher since the program began in 1999. Elliott has coached the team since day one.

"She is as good as any I have ever had," he said.



TISHA COX/Colby Free Press

Colby Community College Trojan Pitcher T.R. Keating threw some heat from the mound Sunday during his team's matchup against Pratt.

Strong pitching boosts Trojans

By Matt Dickson
Colby Community College

The Colby Community College Trojan baseball team extended their win streak to four games as they swept the Pratt Beavers Sunday.

Colby won game one 4-0 and 8-3 in game two. The Trojans are now 13-7 in conference, just one game behind the first place #10 Hutchinson Blue Dragons. The wins gave the Trojans a six game win streak over Pratt going back to last season.

In the first game, T.R. Keating threw a complete game and got the win. The strong performance by

sophomore T.R. Keating improved his record to 4-3 on the season. It was his third complete game of the year and first shutout.

Offensively the Trojans were led by Cory Raczynski (.337) who went 3-for-3 as the Trojans were only able to muster six hits against Pratt's Cody Dillon. The Trojans took a 2-0 lead into the sixth inning when they added two more to put the game out of reach.

The second half of the doubleheader featured the return of a healthy Josh Turner to the rotation. Turner (4-1, 2.03) gave up a two-run homer in the third for his only blemish on the day. He went five

innings and gave up three hits.

Sean Walter started the sixth inning and walked the bases loaded before Adam Skelton entered the game. Skelton struck out the first two batters he faced and got a weak ground ball for the final out of the inning.

The offense pounded out 13 hits in the second game and featured five players with at least two hits. Raczynski had two more hits to give him five for the day.

The Trojans play Brown Mackie Tuesday followed by Garden City Wednesday and Barton on Saturday. All games will begin at 1 p.m.

Lady Trojans win two

Colby Community College softball team won two of three games over the weekend at Ottuma, Iowa.

Colby defeated the Willaim Penn junior varsity team 9-0 in five innings.

Indian Hills defeated Colby 2-0. Colby defeated St. Louis-Meramec 4-2.

Thursday, Colby split a double-

header at Cloud County. Cloud County won the first game 1-0. Colby won game two 9-0 in five innings.

No other statistics were available by press time. Colby is 29-13 overall.

The Lady Trojans play Tuesday at Seward County and Wednesday at Garden City.

Golfers place fifth

Colby High golfer Chris Staley led the team to its fifth place finish Saturday at a meet in Oberlin. Colby scored 188.

Staley was the lone Eagle to place in the top 10 with a score of 43. The meet was played among nine holes.

Trego won the meet with a team score of 173.

They were followed by Phillipsburg, 175; Oberlin, 178;

Goodland, 180 and Colby.

Other Eagle golfers who did not place included R.J. Ladenburger, 47; Josh Johnson and Cole Finley, 49; Kyle Molstad, 53 and Kody Warrk, 56.

"I was pleased and now we look for improvement," said Eagle coach Tom Bowen.

Colby plays 2 p.m. Tuesday at Goodland.

Mickelson wins Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — There was no reason to leap, no reason to look utterly stunned.

Phil Mickelson simply smiled as he fished the ball out the cup, waved to the gallery and made his way to the scoring trailer with his three kids draped around his neck.

There was no need for a nail-biting birdie to win this Masters.

Shadows stretched across the 18th fairway late Sunday afternoon at Augusta National as Mickelson casually made his way to a major championship that was never this easy.

"I loved it," he said. "The stress-free walk up 18 was incredible. I had been wanting that. It was a great feeling walking up there, knowing that I had the tournament in hand."

Once known as the lovable loser who went a dozen years before he

figured out how to win golf's biggest tournaments, Mickelson captured his second straight major at the Masters. He closed with a 3-under 69 for a two-shot victory over Tim Clark and his second green jacket in three years.

This was nothing like the others. He holed an 18-foot birdie putt that swirled into the cup two years ago at the Masters, keeping everyone in suspense until the final moment and sending Mickelson leaping into the air when it finally plopped in. Then there was Baltusrol last summer at the PGA Championship, when he hit a flop shot out of deep rough to within 2 feet for a birdie to win by one shot.

"In '04 when I won, I felt this great feeling of relief that I could win the tournament I dreamt about," Mickelson said.

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