

Not so happy Easter for Kansas City Royals

From kansascityroyals.com
ST. PETERSBURG — Try as they may, the Royals could not get a break during the 9-5 loss to the Devil Rays on Sunday.

They answered the Rays' two-run first with two runs of their own in the second. Tampa Bay scored another and Kansas City was there to counter. The Royals even held a 4-3 lead in the top of the sixth. Nothing was good enough.

It stretched the team's losing streak to seven, handed Tampa Bay a series sweep and put the cap on an 0-7 slide at Tropicana Field dating back to April 2004.

"When you don't get innings out of your rotation, it's always going to come back and haunt you," manager Buddy Bell said. "That's been the case here the past couple of days."

Mark Redman became the latest of the four-deep rotation to have an abbreviated outing. The left-hander threw 88 pitches in his first game back since March 6 arthroscopic surgery, but lasted just five innings. He walked three and struck out three, and scattered seven hits while giving up three runs.

It wasn't bad, but a far cry from his two rehab starts in Double-A, when he tossed a combined 10 innings, allowed one earned run, walked one and struck out nine.

"Physically it was fine," Redman said. "I was getting off the mound fairly decent, and I was really satisfied with how my body felt."

Redman battled through the first two innings, facing 12 batters. He served up a fastball that Jonny Gomes planted over the wall in left-center to get in a 2-0 hole, then watched as Damon Hollins hit a 2-0 pitch to the same spot for the Rays' third run.

It appeared as if the deficit would grow even larger when Redman proceeded to load the bases on a single and two walks. Pitching coach Bob McClure jogged out to the mound for a short chat and Redman managed to squeak out of the second inning with no additional harm.

He got on a roll after that, and faced just 10 batters in his final three innings.

"I just think that first inning, I was just rushing a little bit, falling behind hitters and not really attacking," Redman said. "I just had to make some adjustments on what was working, and slow my body down."

His relief, however, didn't fare nearly as well. Steve Stemple (0-1) earned both a blown save and his first loss after being tagged for six earned runs in the 2 1/3 innings he lasted.

Rockies lose rare 1-0 game

From coloradorockies.com
DENVER — Rockies pitchers had put up goose eggs for 16 consecutive Coors Field Easter innings going into the seventh on Sunday, but Ryan Howard finally ended the hunt with a solo homer into the visiting bullpen to break a scoreless tie and give the Phillies a 1-0 victory.

Colorado hadn't given up an Easter run at home since winning an extra-inning game against Arizona in 2001. Shawn Chacon, Brian Fuentes and Jose Jimenez combined for a shutout against the Padres in 2003, and Aaron Cook kept the streak alive with six scoreless innings against Philadelphia on Sunday.

"Obviously, Aaron Cook threw well today," said leadoff man Cory Sullivan. "It was just going to be who blinked first. Unfortunately, that was us."

Cook was at his best, pitching eight innings and giving up only six hits and a walk on an efficient 86 pitches, but he left the game dissatisfied, despite contributing to a classic pitchers' duel and only the second 1-0 game played in over 11 seasons at Coors Field.

"Today, my best wasn't enough to win the game," Cook said. "At the end of the day, you're not saying, 'I went out there and battled and only gave up one run.' I'm mad at myself that I gave up the home run."

Howard's homer was the only blemish on Cook's afternoon, but it was not enough to withstand a sterling starting effort from Phillies starter Brett Myers, denying Cook his first career win against Philadelphia.

Myers continued his dominance of Colorado, moving to 5-0 lifetime against the Rockies.



photo courtesy of JEFF MASON

Colby High School Eagle Jessica Stephens ran the mile at the K.T. Woodman Classic track meet in Wichita Saturday.

Mazanec wins discus at Woodman Classic

Three top three finishes highlighted the Colby High School track team's results Friday at the K.T. Woodman Classic held in Wichita.

Lissa Mazanec won the discus with a distance of 136.7.

That was Colby's only first-place finish.

Andrea Barker placed third in the 200 with a time of :27.4. Jessie Stephens placed third in the 3200 with a time of 12:09.32.

Fifth place finishes included: Barker, 100 meter, :13.28; Zanae Baird, 3200, 12:38.71; Paige Stephens, high jump, 4-10; Barker, Carleigh Dempewolf, Caitie Henry, Mazanec, 4x100 relay, :54.14.

Sixth-place finishes included April Weaver, Jessie Stephens, Tasha Wagoner and Mazanec, 4x400, 4:21.6.

Colby competes 9:30 a.m. Tuesday at Scott City.

SportsLine

The Colby Eagle Basketball Camp for boys and girls in third through eighth grade will be held 9-11:30 a.m. May 30-June 2 at Colby High School.

Cost is \$45. Deadline to register is May 10.

For more information, contact Derek Bissitt at 460-5300.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. (AP) — Aaron Baddeley won the Verizon Heritage for his first PGA Tour title Sunday, rallying with two late birdies and finishing off Jim Furyk with a scrambling par on Harbour Town's lighthouse closing hole.

The 25-year-old Australian birdied two of the hardest holes on the PGA Tour — the 14th was statistically the hardest par 3 on tour last year and the 15th was the hardest par 5 — to take the lead. He shot a 1-under 70 to finish at 15 under, a stroke ahead of Furyk (71) and two ahead of Vaughn Taylor (66) and Billy Mayfair (69).

Furyk had his chances to tie after Baddeley chunked a chip shot at the par-3 17th and made bogey. But Furyk followed by missing a 10-foot par putt to remain one back.

Again on the 18th hole, Furyk had a tying 12-foot birdie putt, but slid it left. Baddeley, who missed the green when his second shot went long and right, then won with a 6-foot par putt that caught the right edge of the cup and dropped in. Baddeley won \$954,000 and a tour exemption through 2008. He has three victories in Australia, where his family moved from New Hampshire when he was 2.

GLADEVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Nextel Cup driver Kevin Harvick

raced to his first NASCAR Busch Series victory of the year Saturday, taking the lead with 52 laps to go and holding off teammate Clint Bowyer after a late caution in the Pepsi 300.

Harvick finished 0.504 seconds ahead of Bowyer, his Richard Childress racing teammate, en route to his 18th career Busch Series victory. Harvick also took a 156-point lead over Denny Hamlin in the series standings and became the eighth Nextel Cup driver to win in the first eight races of the Busch Series season.

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — Nadia Petrova battled stifling heat, sore legs and the temptation to retire Sunday to defeat Patty Schnyder 6-3, 4-6, 6-1 and win the Family Circle Cup for her second straight tournament victory.

Petrova, who also won last week at Amelia Island, now has four tour victories, all in the last six months. Her first came last October at Linz, Austria, where she also defeated Schnyder. Petrova won last month at Doha but Sunday was her first top-tier tournament win.

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Hurry in parents!! Deadline is May 1st!!!

The Colby Free Press is now planning the Senior Graduation Tab and will be giving parents a chance to put a baby picture in along with a short message from the family.

We will automatically feature your student's picture and information, but this will be your chance to put in a baby picture to show how much your senior has really changed over the years!

Call Crystal or Derek @ 462-3963 for more information or stop by the office at 155 W. 5th in Colby.

CLAYTON JAMES KAISER

Small Sample

I will attend CCC for a year then transfer to the Air Force Academy.

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To learn more about using WideMatch to control tough broadleaf weeds in corn, contact your local ag retailer or visit www.WideMatch.com.

Brandon Lueck
Sales Representative
Garden City, KS

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