

Royals take the Indians

CLEVELAND (AP) — It was the kind of game Chuck Finley normally puts in the win column.

Not this time. Cleveland's All-Star left-hander allowed a grand slam to Dave McCarty as the Kansas City Royals beat the Indians 10-5 on Wednesday night.

"I feel like I let my team down," Finley said. "It came down to one pitch that I had to make and I didn't make it. I left it over the plate and he put it in the seats."

Gregg Zaun followed with a solo homer to give the Royals a 5-3 lead against Finley (8-7), who allowed only three hits over the first five innings.

"I grooved one again and he put it up in the seats again," Finley said. "And that was pretty much the game."

Johnny Damon added a three-run homer off Jaime Navarro as the Royals won consecutive games for the first time since June 28-29.

"We certainly need to get on a roll and maybe this will help get us started," McCarty said after hitting his first career slam to give the Royals a 4-

3 lead in the sixth inning.

Kansas City loaded the bases on singles by Rey Sanchez, Jermaine Dye and Mark Quinn. McCarty then hit a two-out, 2-1 pitch 412 feet into the bleachers in left-center for his ninth homer.

"Finley made one mistake and we scored four on it," Royals manager Tony Muser said.

Mike Sweeney had an RBI single and Joe Randa a sacrifice fly to make it 7-4 in the seventh, and Damon connected in the eighth to make it 10-4.

Mac Suzuki (5-4) allowed four runs and nine hits over six innings. His 3.47 ERA is second in the AL to Boston's Pedro Martinez at 1.49.

Jim Thome hit two of Cleveland's three solo homers.

Finley allowed five runs on eight hits in 5 2-3 innings, striking out five and walking one.

"He was throwing good and then in one inning, kind of fell apart," Indians manager Charlie Manuel said.

Even then, Cleveland still had a chance to win for the sixth time in

seven games since the All-Star break.

The Indians loaded the bases with none out in the seventh, but left-hander Tim Lincecum struck out Thome and right-hander Jerry Spradlin got Travis Fryman to bounce into a force out at home and Ricky Ledee to foul out. Spradlin went 22-3 innings for his seventh save.

"Getting out of that seventh inning was the key," Muser said. "The last couple of years, our bullpen has struggled to hold some wins so this one felt really good."

Thome gave Cleveland a 1-0 lead in the fourth by hitting the first pitch into the seats in right-center for his 26th homer.

Damon's throwing error in center later in the inning helped Cleveland make it 3-0.

Thome hit his 27th homer to pull Cleveland within 5-4 in the sixth. It was his second two-homer game in three nights and 15th multihomer game of his career.

Sandy Alomar hit his fourth homer for Cleveland in the eighth.

Rockies whipped by Dodgers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Dodgers might have their manager back very soon. They've done pretty well in his absence.

Kevin Brown allowed only one hit in eight innings as the Dodgers beat the Colorado Rockies 9-1 Wednesday night for their third win in four games since manager Davey Johnson was hospitalized early Sunday due to dizziness caused by an irregular heart rhythm.

Johnson was discharged from a nearby hospital shortly before Wednesday night's game, and issued a statement saying, among other things, that he was "looking forward to getting back into the baseball routine."

"I'm very, very happy about that," said bench coach Jim Tracy, who has managed the Dodgers since Sunday.

"Davey's the man in charge here. They asked me to do this until he comes back."

Brown (9-3), showing no ill effects from the tightness in his pitching shoulder that caused him to be removed from his last start, allowed only a first-inning single by Larry Walker before retiring 23 of his last 24 batters, including the final 14.

Brown walked one and struck out eight before being removed for a pinch-hitter in the eighth, when the Dodgers scored five runs off reliever Stan Belinda.

Brown, who threw 104 pitches, had a no-hitter while playing for the world champion Florida Marlins in 1997. He ended up combining with Mike Fetters on a one-hitter despite claiming he didn't have his best stuff.

"I think it was a matter of keeping guys off-balance," he said. "I have to tip my hat to the guys in the field. My fastball wasn't there throughout the game."

Brown, who left last Friday night's 5-3 loss to Anaheim after one pitch in the eighth, allowed only a four-pitch walk to Todd Helton in the fourth after Walker's single.

"It was stiff," he said of his shoulder. "I know it was there. I was able to get through it."

Dodgers catcher Chad Kreuter said Brown was in control throughout.

"He had everything working, he threw sinkers, he threw splits, sliders," Kreuter said. "It wasn't just one pitch."

Colorado third baseman Jeff Cirillo said the key to Brown's effectiveness is the movement on his pitches.

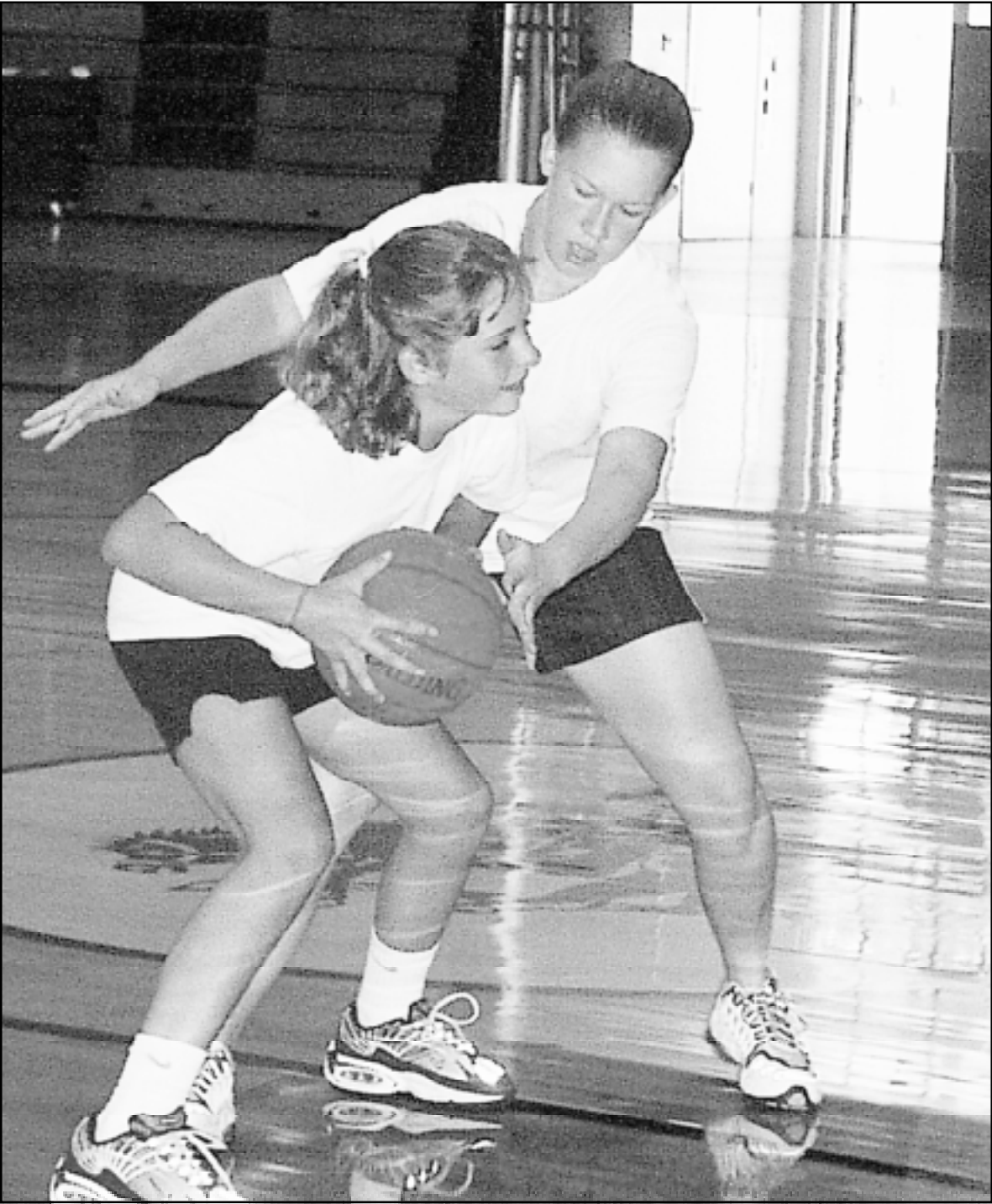
baseball scoreboard

By The Associated Press					National League Glance				
East Division					W	L	Pct.	GB	
Atlanta	57	37	.606	—					
New York	52	41	.559	4 1/2					
Florida	47	46	.505	9 1/2					
Montreal	43	48	.473	12 1/2					
Philadelphia	42	51	.452	14 1/2					
Central Division					W	L	Pct.	GB	
St. Louis	54	40	.574	—					
Cincinnati	48	46	.511	6					
Chicago	40	53	.430	13 1/2					
Milwaukee	40	55	.421	14 1/2					
Pittsburgh	39	54	.419	14 1/2					
Houston	32	62	.340	22					
West Division					W	L	Pct.	GB	
Arizona	54	41	.568	—					
San Francisco	51	41	.554	1 1/2					
Los Angeles	48	45	.516	5					
Colorado	47	45	.511	5 1/2					
San Diego	42	52	.447	11 1/2					
Tuesday's Games									
Colorado 18, Oakland 3									
Pittsburgh 8, Los Angeles 6									
Anaheim 3, San Diego 2, 11 innings									
Atlanta 8, Tampa Bay 2									
N.Y. Yankees 3, Philadelphia 1									
Boston 3, Montreal 1									
Cincinnati 5, Detroit 4									
Cleveland 8, Houston 2									
Florida 7, Baltimore 0									
Minnesota 3, St. Louis 2									
N.Y. Mets 11, Toronto 7									
Wednesday's Games									
Atlanta at Florida, ppd., rain									
Chicago Cubs 5, Philadelphia 4									
Milwaukee 6, Pittsburgh 0									
Cincinnati 4, Houston 0									
Arizona 4, St. Louis 3									
Thursday's Games									
San Diego 9, Colorado 1									
San Diego 4, San Francisco 3, 10 innings									
Friday's Games									
N.Y. Mets (Hampton 9-6) at Montreal									

Hermanson 7-7, 11:35 a.m.					Seattle 55 38 .591 —				
Pittsburgh (Silva 5-4) at Milwaukee (Haynes 9-8), 12:05 p.m.					Oakland 50 43 .538 5				
Philadelphia (Chen 5-0) at Chicago Cubs (Tapani 6-7), 12:20 p.m.					Anaheim 51 44 .537 5				
Atlanta (Glavine 10-5 and Millwood 5-8) at Florida (Dempster 9-6 and Burnett 0-0), 2, 2:05 p.m.					Texas 45 47 .489 9 1/2				
St. Louis (Kile 11-6) at Arizona (Johnson 14-2), 2:35 p.m.					Wednesday's Games				
San Diego (Williams 4-2) at San Francisco (Rueter 6-5), 5:05 p.m.					Kansas City 10, Cleveland 5				
Cincinnati (Williamson 3-6) at Houston (Lima 2-13), 6:05 p.m.					Toronto 5, Tampa Bay 2				
Colorado (Yoshii 4-10) at Los Angeles (Park 9-7), 8:10 p.m.					New York 9, Detroit 1				
Friday's Games					Boston at Baltimore, ppd., rain				
Milwaukee (Snyder 3-4) at Chicago Cubs (Wood 4-6), 1:20 p.m.					Chicago White Sox 3, Minnesota 2				
Philadelphia (Anderson 2-5) at Pittsburgh (Byrd 2-7), 5:05 p.m.					Seattle 6, Oakland 3				
Montreal (Thurman 1-1) at Florida (C.Smith 0-2), 5:05 p.m.					Texas 3, Anaheim 2				
Arizona (Morgan 4-2 and Daal 2-10) at Cincinnati (Parris 5-12), 5:35 p.m.					Thursday's Games				
N.Y. Mets (Leiter 10-3) at Atlanta (Mulholland 9-9), 5:40 p.m.					Detroit (Blair 5-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 9-5), 10:05 a.m.				
St. Louis (Ankiel 6-5) at Houston (Elarton 9-3), 6:05 p.m.					Chicago White Sox (Parque 9-2) at Minnesota (Mays 4-11), 11:05 a.m.				
San Diego (Eaton 1-1) at Colorado (Bhannon 4-6), 7:05 p.m.					Boston (R.Martinez 7-5) at Baltimore (Ponson 5-5), 11:35 a.m., 1st game				
San Francisco (Estes 9-3) at Los Angeles (Perez 4-4), 8:10 p.m.					Seattle (Sele 11-4) at Oakland (Heredia 10-7), 1:35 p.m.				

American League Glance					Seattle 55 38 .591 —				
East Division					Oakland 50 43 .538 5				
New York	49	40	.551	—	Anaheim 51 44 .537 5				
Boston	48	42	.533	1 1/2	Texas 45 47 .489 9 1/2				
Toronto	51	45	.531	1 1/2	Wednesday's Games				
Baltimore	40	52	.435	10 1/2	Kansas City 10, Cleveland 5				
Tampa Bay	37	55	.402	13 1/2	Toronto 5, Tampa Bay 2				
Central Division					New York 9, Detroit 1				
Chicago	60	34	.638	—	Boston at Baltimore, ppd., rain				
Cleveland	49	44	.527	10 1/2	Chicago White Sox 3, Minnesota 2				
Detroit	42	49	.462	16 1/2	Seattle 6, Oakland 3				
Kansas City	42	50	.457	17	Texas 3, Anaheim 2				
Minnesota	41	56	.423	20 1/2	Thursday's Games				
West Division					Detroit (Blair 5-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 9-5), 10:05 a.m.				
W	L	Pct.	GB		Chicago White Sox (Parque 9-2) at Minnesota (Mays 4-11), 11:05 a.m.				

Learning to block



Participants in the 2000 Cowgirls Basketball camp on Thursday pick up needed skills for the upcoming basketball season.
Photo by Dana Sulsberger/The Goodland Daily News

Elway to play in Colorado Open

AURORA, Colo. (AP) — Looking for a favorite in the 37th Colorado Open golf tournament? Look no further than defending champion Bill Riddle and 1998 winner Shane Bertsch.

But if you want to know where the galleries will be, check out John Elway.

Elway, fresh off a second-place finish last weekend in the Celebrity Players Tour event that bears his name, joined the Colorado Open field under a sponsor's exemption after a spot opened because of an injury.

Elway, who will compete as an amateur, is playing in his first Colorado Open, and all eyes figure to be on the former Denver Broncos quarterback.

In fact, on the pairings sheet for

Thursday's first round, only one name is listed in bold type among the 156 competitors: Elway.

Riddle, 33, of Cave Creek, Ariz., won last year's tournament by sinking a 6-foot birdie putt on the first playoff hole to edge Scott Mendelsohn.

Bertsch, 30, of Parker, Colo., comes in on a roll, having posted his first Buy.com Tour victory on Sunday, closing with rounds of 64 and 68 to earn \$72,000.

Both are battle-tested. Elway, on the other hand, saw 7,351-yard Saddle Rock Golf Course for the first time on Wednesday.

"The greens are awful tough," Elway said following his practice round. "It definitely takes some knowl-

edge. I'm looking forward to playing it. It's in good shape."

Asked what he shot, Elway said, "I didn't even keep score. Believe me, I saved a lot (of good shots for the tournament)."

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